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# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

JANUARY 2013

P.O. BOX 692  
AMES, IA 50010

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VOL. 46 ISSUE 1

**NEXT PROGRAM: MON., JAN. 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2012, 7PM  
EXTENSION 4-H YOUTH BUILDING ON THE  
NORTH SIDE OF ISU CAMPUS**

## Chronicles of a Civil War Soldier

*a presentation*

*by Glenn and Mary Kappelmann*

John Ritland was a recent immigrant from Norway (1855) and arrived at Story City where his family began farming. He enlisted in the Union Army Co. K, 32nd Iowa Volunteer Infantry in 1862 and fought through the entire Civil War. In 1911 - 12, he wrote his memoirs; and it is from this personal record that his story will be told by his great-granddaughter Mary Ritland. Her discussion will be a personal peek into the experience of a common soldier during the Civil War and will help us imagine what our own relatives felt and remembered.

"An organizational meeting was held at the home of Dr. Norval Wardle with the following organization committee: Martin Paulson, Mrs. A. Harold Crippen, Jim H., Howard McPhail, and Dr. and Mrs. Wardle. Dr. Wardle was elected temporary chairman."

This society, which later changed its name to Story County Genealogical Society, went on to draft a constitution and commence its work. Over the years members have engaged in projects such as indexing a history of the county, creating a complete catalog of county gravestones, indexing, starting and maintaining an obituary file, publishing booklets, publishing personal family histories, and participating at a state society level. Incidentally, the Story County Genealogical Society was the first chapter to be accepted by the Iowa Genealogical Society.

There are a few in our company that were charter members or children of charter members, and over the years many others, even internationally, have contributed to and benefitted from the society's research, education, and socialization.

**2013 marks  
45<sup>th</sup> year for SCGS**



*By Samara Thornock  
With significant contribution  
from Merlene Whisenand*

On April 4, 1968, the Minutes of the Secretary of the Ames Genealogy Society read:

Throughout the 8 publications of this year, the SCGS newsletter will be highlighting some of the society's unique history. If you'd like to participate, we'd love to hear from you as we reiterate and cherish what is so succinctly summed in the IGS motto:

**PRESERVING THE PAST; ENRICHING THE FUTURE**

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# Oh, How “Pinteresting!”

A Message from Mary J. Lohr,  
*President ad Interim*  
 Story County Genealogical Society



Image courtesy of  
 afmarcom.com

If you're a person who likes the visual side of genealogy, you may be interested in a relatively new “social media” tool called Pinterest (pinterest.com). Think of it as an online pin board or virtual bulletin board where you can place, or “pin,” images from websites that you like or want to share.

You can also pin your own photographs, such as a picture of your great-grandparents.

Images can be separated into categories, or subjects, called “Boards”. You can have an unlimited number of Boards and choose a descriptive name for them.

Pinterest is free, but you do need to sign up to create an account. You can choose whether you want to link your Facebook or Twitter account to Pinterest.

Pinterest is by no means limited to genealogy-themed Boards. Decorating, gardening, and antiques are also popular subjects. After your account is set up and you've signed in, you can use the search box to explore other images and then “re-pin” them to your own Boards. Adding a comment is optional. And remember, most of the graphics are really just the visual representation of a website.

You can also create a private or “secret” board if you are working on a project and are not yet ready to share it with others. The private board can serve as a staging area for ideas in progress.

Be aware, however: Pinterest can consume a huge amount of time! Time does not stand still while you are exploring this resource.

You can check out my or other genealogy Pinterest boards at the following URL's:

<https://pinterest.com/maryjlohr>  
<https://pinterest.com/geneabloggers/>  
<https://pinterest.com/familystories/>  
<https://pinterest.com/elisacoffman/>  
<http://pinterest.com/savingstories/>

Happy Pinning!

## 1850s Times in Story County, Iowa

*An excerpt from E.F. Ware, THE LYON CAMPAIGN IN MISSOURI, Being a History of the First Iowa Infantry, 1907, Crane & Company, Topeka, Kansas. A private soldier in Company “E” of said regiment.*

*Submitted by Gretchen Triplett*

In the 1850s in Iowa, most citizens were born elsewhere, either back East or overseas. They ventured to Iowa when it was still a Territory. The Territory of Iowa was an organized incorporated territory of the United States that existed from 4 July 1838 until 28 December 1846, when the southeastern portion of the territory was admitted to the Union as the State of Iowa, becoming the 29th state. Most of this territory was originally part of the Louisiana Purchase and was part of the Missouri Territory. When Missouri became a state in 1821, this area and the Dakotas became unorganized territory, and was closed to white settlers until the 1830s, following the Black Hawk War. It then became part of the Michigan Territory, with Michigan gaining statehood in 1836. Now the Iowa District was the western Wisconsin Territory, a region west of the Mississippi River. It included Minnesota and parts of the Dakotas. Iowa City was named the official territorial capital in 1841.



Image courtesy of  
 tc.umn.edu

The Black War was in 1832. Black Hawk, leader of  
 (“Times in Story County” continued on pg. 3)



the Sauks, along with Meskwakis and Kickapoos fought with the US. It was another episode of the Native Americans being pushed out of land that had been ceded to them in an 1804 treaty. It set up the US policy of Indian removal. All that aside, the war gave Abraham Lincoln his brief military service. Winfield Scott, Zachary Taylor and Jefferson Davis also were young fighting men in that war.

By 1850, slave territory and slavery discussion was becoming more and more rabid. The Compromise of 1850 actually did very little to ease tensions between the North and the South. The Fugitive Slave Act, part of the compromise, forced runaway slaves to be returned to their owners, infuriating those who opposed slavery. Slavery was banned in Washington, D.C. Everyone on one side or the other talked about the United States Constitution, and both sides seemed to think that the constitution was in very great peril. Many people worried that the country could not hold together much longer. Discussions were very bitter, and many people entreated Holy Writ to prove their point.

Early settlers along the Mississippi River in Iowa were mostly Germans and Irish. Many of the Germans were military refugees from the Revolution of 1848 in Germany. They were very industrious and held lots of festivals that were well done and a credit to their heritage. They planted lots of vineyards, and drank lots of their homemade wine. New whisky, clear like water and sold

for fifteen or twenty cents a gallon, was very available. There were lots of temperance meetings, but few restrictions were possible. Beer came in much later, just not popular at first. In those days the great moral reform crusade was against gambling. Nearly everyone used tobacco, the chewing kind. Cigars were long and not well made. There was no tax.

Money was also in very short supply, it was all in the East in private banks. These banks were very profitable because there was so much made in 'exchange.' Lots of counterfeit bills. Over five hundred banks emitted currency, and the rates varied every day. Huge magazines were printed weekly stating the value of bills. Depositors spent much time with a magnifying glass to determine if a bill was real, and then what it was worth. He was entitled to get out of the bank what he had put into it and no more. American silver was scarce. The Mexican dollar was cut up into eight pieces and these pieces were called 'bits.' Mexican half-dollars and Mexican quarter-dollars were also cut up. Hence the term 'six bits,' for example. All hoarding was done with silver or with gold, but gold was scarce at the time.

Paper currency was impossible and very uncommon in the 1850s. Each State seemed to have its favorite currency, so if you were traveling to Illinois you were required to have the favorite currency of Illinois, or traveling to St. Louis, 'Missouri money.' Bank tellers had their hands full sorting currency.



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

## Story County Genealogical Society

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
or pay Treasurer ad interim, Pat Cain, at a SCGS meeting.  
Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_ \$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2012.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

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## Membership Fees Due

Your yearly membership fees make it possible for the Story County Genealogical Society to continue on with its work in family history both for its members and the community. Dues contribute to rent for meeting facilities, traveling and presentation allowances for the monthly program, and printing and distribution expenses for the newsletter among many other costs .

Many have already paid, but for those of you who have not, there is still time! Dues can be paid to the treasurer at the upcoming meeting or may be mailed in. For questions or more information, please contact the treasurer or review the membership form found on page 3 of this newsletter .

## Meeting Minutes

November 2012

The November 2012 Meeting, held Nov 12th, was called to order by President Mary Lohr at the Extension 4-H Youth Building on ISU Campus. There were 13 members and 1 guest was present.

Theresa Beer was the guest and was introduced.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved. The treasurer's report and audit report were read and approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

Outside lights at the meeting place need to be on when there are meetings. Mary Lohr will request this.

Mary Lohr, Marti Rasmussen and Luanne Endreland talked about the Boy Scout Merit Badge Class held last Saturday.

### NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

The meeting was adjourned.

The election of officers was held. There is still a need for a president and treasurer. Pat Cain will stay until January as Treasurer.

The nomination committee put forth the following candidates:

Vice President	Marti Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
News Letter Ed.	Samara Thornock
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Historian	Martha Deyoe

Pat Cain moved to accept the nominations and Mary Ausborn seconded the motion. The motion was approved to elect the slate of officers as nominated.

## Story County Genealogical Society

January 2013 ♡ VOL. 46 ISSUE 1

### OFFICERS

President ad interim	Mary Lohr
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer ad interim	Pat Cain
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe

### NEWSLETTER

Editor Samara Thornock  
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Next issue February 2013  
Deadline for Articles/Announcements  
**Sunday, February 3, 2013**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

*All Meetings are scheduled for 7pm at the Extension 4-H Youth Building on the north side of ISU campus unless otherwise stated*

**January 14, 2013** "Chronicles of a Civil War Soldier"  
*Speakers: Glenn and Mary Kappelman*

**February 11, 2013** Topic: Google Earth  
*Speaker: Martha Rasmussen and Gwenna Jacobson*

**March 11, 2013** "Searching the Past, Looking toward the Future"  
*Speaker: Mary Ausborn*

**April 8, 2013** "Saving Stories: an oral history project from the Ames Historical Society"  
*Speaker: T.J. Larson*



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FEBRUARY 2013

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VOL. 46 ISSUE 2

**NEXT PROGRAM: MON., FEB. 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2013, 7PM  
EXTENSION 4-H YOUTH BUILDING ON THE  
NORTH SIDE OF ISU CAMPUS**

## Google Earth is Fun, Frustrating, and Worth it!

By Marti Rasmussen

My goals for the February meeting have changed over the past two weeks as I have tried to learn more about using Google Earth for genealogy. I was inspired to try by Lisa Louise Cooke in a presentation she made at the Ohio Genealogical Society meeting I attended a couple of years ago. This week I have been learning about making overlays from historical maps to install over the Google Earth pictures of a particular township in order to locate a family farm or home. It has been tough going, but I am hoping I can show you how and can be a good example of "trying, trying" and "trying" again.

I will present the result of these efforts and hope for the best!

Meanwhile, Gwenna Jacobson, who will actually show you an overlay she made for a section of Story County where her husband's relative owned a farm, will start the program. She will give a basic intro to Google Earth. I should listen closely.

We hope to have a few computers handy to link up to the ISU network, so members and guests can give Google Earth a try for themselves. In the meantime, I am looking up the details of Lisa's presentation. She has put most of it online for free if you look it up at [lisalouisecooke.com](http://lisalouisecooke.com). While you are there, look for Free Google Earth Video and give Google Earth a try. It's fun, but get your information together before you start. It's a lot more fun and easier to do that way.

## The Healing Power of Family History

By Samara Thornock

It speaks highly of the kind of people who research family history when some of the first sources they turn to after the census are the church or military records. While moral and honorable lives may be our well-chosen fate, our optimism that this was likewise the path of our ancestors may divert our attention from some of the less savory records and social/behavioral progress of those who came before us.

Though jail time has not been the fate of any of my known forbearers, the stories of their lives have, at times, been at least full of character if not devastatingly tragic in their consequences. It was even said of one great grandfather that his children couldn't wait to be the first to kick the dirt on his grave.

So why, generations later, would anyone try to associate themselves with such a legacy? We all have our reasons, and we all have our motivations that are sometimes absent reason, but one cause that can't escape me is gratitude.

And while I may not be able to thank them for the poor eyesight or occasions for family dys"fun"ction, I can thank them for living, migrating, struggling, starving, having children, and paving the way so I can experience the ups, downs, ins, and outs of a colorful life.

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## Introducing New SCGS Officers

After years of excellent service, President Mary Lohr and Treasurer Pat Cain have laid their administrative hats aside and passed their leadership torches on. At the January meeting of the Story County Genealogical Society, members Marilyn Peterson and Mary Ausborn were nominated and elected President and Treasurer, respectively. We look forward to their tenure, and offer heartfelt thanks to Mary and Pat for the excellent assistance in their heretofore mentioned duties. Thank you immensely!

By way of introduction, we asked Marilyn and Mary to share a bit about themselves and reflect upon their interests and experiences in regard to genealogy. This was their reply:



Marilyn Peterson

*One of my favorite childhood activities on a Sunday afternoon was bringing out the "old green hamper" that contained family photos. I only knew one grandparent and knew no great grandparents, but I grew up around aunts, uncles, and cousins. Unfortunately, I didn't realize until years later what I missed by not remembering or recording what I heard about my ancestors and the family. When I could finally devote time to genealogy, many of the sources were gone. But my mother was a collector, and I was the recipient of documents and information that she saved. I have done a limited amount of research, and my constant challenge is organizing what I have, adding documentation, and filling in details. It is exciting when I can "fill in the blanks" on an ancestor or family member.*

*My husband and I enjoy attending genealogy meetings and conferences and have gained insight and ideas from others who share this interest. We do not have Story County ties, but we both have Iowa roots, and being involved in SCGS and the Iowa Genealogical Society has been rewarding and educational. A highlight for us a few years ago was to visit an ancestral farm of the Peterson family in Denmark. That really brings genealogy to life in an exciting way. But for now, I am trying to learn more about internet research, stay in touch with family members, and find answers to as many questions as possible. How often we think of questions we should have asked, and we remember my father's remark--"so much to do, so little time". That serves as my motto, and it is probably shared by most genealogists.*



Mary Ausborn

*Hello, I'm Mary J. Larson Ausborn and have been a member of SCGS off and on since moving to Ames in 1985 from Belmond, Iowa.*

*Before that I was a member of the North Iowa Genealogy Society at Mason City. This was 45 miles from us so only going a few blocks to a meeting is great.*

*I got into genealogy after taking a class in Mason City and discovering that the IGS offered a Pioneer Certificate and I wanted one. More on this when you attend the meeting in March as this is what my program will be on.*

*I've researched over 10 different family lines on my husband and my side. It's always a real highlight when I discover something new, such as a few years ago when in the mail I received the wedding picture of my grandparent Larson's. I had never seen the picture before.*

*I graduated from Belmond High School and met my husband of 53 years through mutual friends. We have two children, Randy 52, married to Sandra and they have 3 children and three granddaughters. We also have a daughter Melanie 34 and she has one son Dylan who is 11 years old.*

*Until this year we have always cared for Dylan and got him to school. However, this year he chose to go to school in Ogden where they live so Bob and I had empty nest all over again and got a puppy named Lucy. Now we spoil her.*

*I've been President, Vice President and now Treasurer of the SCGS and have especially enjoyed the friendships I've made through the years here.*

### Iowa and the Civil War: Nothing but Victory

[www.iowahistory.org/museum/](http://www.iowahistory.org/museum/)

The State Historical Museum of Iowa is hosting a temporary exhibit entitled "Iowa and the Civil War: Nothing But Victory"

With more than 300 authentic artifacts including battle flags and weaponry, this exhibition recounts the first-hand experiences of Iowans at war and the communities that supported them. Highlights of the battle of Pea Ridge and Wilson's Creek are also included. Gretchen Triplett reports: "I saw the exhibit today, spent about two hours there, it is a small exhibit actually, but soooo well done, and very interesting." The State Historical Museum of Iowa is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and Noon-4:30 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Call 515-281-5111 for more information.



# Genealogy Research From a Distance

by Mary Lohr

Do you have ancestors in far away places that you do not plan to visit in the foreseeable future? Although on-site access to records may be the most productive, there are other resources you can use to gather some of your information. None is guaranteed to provide all the answers, but you may find much of what you are seeking by using these ideas.



\*Check the FamilySearch.org website to see what records may have been filmed or digitized for that locale.

\*Do a Google search using keywords for the county, city or state and the type of record you are searching. Also Google the name of the ancestor and add location or other key information.

\*Check the website of the state or county to learn where vital records are located and terms of access and restrictions.

\*Check the GenWeb site for the county. These sites, run by volunteers, can be a treasure trove of information. You may find links to obituaries, cemetery records, biographies, etc. and maybe even the name of a volunteer who will do a look-up for you!

\*Check the webpage of a nearby public library. They may have an email address and you can forward a question to them. Or, give them a call to see what they have available, i.e., do they have a file of obituaries?

\*Check for a local genealogy or historical society in the area. They may be able to provide helpful information or, for a fee, conduct some research for you.

\*Post an inquiry to a mailing list or message board on RootsWeb. You may be able to connect with a long-lost cousin or distant relative.

Now, when you're finally able to take that long-awaited trip you may have the information you need and be ready to do even more exploring!

# Iowa Settlers and The Fergusons

Part 1 of 4

Submitted by Gretchen Triplett

The first American settlers moved to Iowa in 1833, and in 1838, the U.S. Congress established the Territory of Iowa, there being 22 counties at the time. Immediately thereafter, a clamor arose for statehood. The boundaries of Story County were established in 28 December 1846, when Iowa became the 29<sup>th</sup> state in the Union. The first settlers came from Indiana, New York and Pennsylvania. Later, northern Europeans came, including Norwegians, Germans and Danes. The first large population influx was during the 1850s. By 1860, the population of Iowa was 675,000, Story County population was 4,501.

The family of Hiram Ferguson of New York from Oswego County in 1854 settled in Story County. The grandfather was born in Scotland, coming to this country and settling in Oswego, New York, where he was living at the time of the Revolutionary War.

A millwright by trade, Hiram came to Iowa and found employment easily in building a sawmill on the Iowa River, near Union in Hardin County. He then built a mill for John Miller on the Skunk River in Franklin Township, and also for Darius Chandler at Cambridge. He was inventive and originated a water wheel principally for up and down sawmills, which was used quite extensively throughout the country for many years. After two years, he went east for his wife and family and returned, for a time living at Steamboat Rock in Hardin County where he had overhauled a mill and put in one of his wheels. The first-born son returned to New York to marry and remained there his entire life.

Hiram built a gristmill and in the fall of 1858 moved his family to Nevada in order that the children might have the advantages of school during the winter. He took up residence on 160 acres of land in Howard Township in 1859. The mother Ethelinda Dewey Ferguson passed away the following year, on 27 May 1860 at the age of fifty-three years. Sons Harvey, Jason DeVillo and Hiram Fitch farmed with him. Hiram passing in 1863, at age 54; son Harvey also passed that year. Daughter Delia Narcisa, born in 1847, lived down the road with another family, according to later census records.

Iowa supported the Union during the Civil War, voting heavily for Abraham Lincoln, though there was a strong antiwar ("Iowa Settlers" Continued on page 4)





“Copperhead” movement among settlers of southern origins and among Catholics. The American Civil War at the time was called The Rebellion, or The War of the Rebellion. If you lived south of the Mason Dixon Line, you called it The War of Northern Aggression.

... More to come next month

## Keep Family Stories Alive for Future Generations

By James E. Wise, Des Moines  
Submitted by Merlene Whisenhand

Growing up in the 1930s generated many challenges.

Families were stressed dealing with significant issues - no money, no jobs, drought, disease, loss of hope, concern for the future. And, the “storm clouds” developing over Europe added greatly to the unease of most families.

What to do?

During those times, families gathered together to lend support and encouragement to each other. Grandparents, aunts, and uncles moved in with the offspring, sharing their wealth and opportunities. Some gathered for family visits on an irregular basis while others convened annually for large family reunions to

share their “bounty” and to review and relish their family history and further spread the wives’ tales of days gone by. These tactics helped to sustain us.

Those days have come and gone, and the limited advantages of those conditions have disappeared. Proximity of family, dependency upon one another and the spirit of the nuclear family seem to be second thoughts.

All too often our children today lack the opportunity of seeing their extended family, let alone getting to know each other or learn the family history, since they are spread from coast to coast and country to country. Technology has helped to ease the situation, but is it enough?

Grandparents, take the initiative and begin sharing your family history. Write it down. Record or videotape the tales of your family, tell the funny and sad stories, the experiences with schooling, your neighborhood and growing-up years, your parents and your parents’ parents, your working years, all the things that helped to make you who you are today.

In this small way, the oral history of America can be rekindled and passed down for generations to come.

What a gift to your family and their families!



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

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MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

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P.O. Box 692  
AMES, IA 50010

# Meeting Minutes

November 2012

The January 2013 Meeting, held January 14th, was called to order by Vice President Marti Rasmussen at the Extension 4-H Youth Building on ISU Campus. There were 19 members and 6 guests were present.

Guests were Paul & Paula Anderson, Bev Shafer, Joan Rice and Mary & Glen Kapplemann,

An announcement was made that future meetings will be canceled for weather, if Ames school is cancelled because of weather.

Another announcement was made that **dues are due**.

## OLD BUSINESS

Marti Rasmussen put forward the candidates of Marilyn Peterson for President and Mary Ausborn for Treasurer. Merlene Whisenand moved and Marti Rasmussen seconded the nomination of Marilyn Peterson for President. Pat Cain moved and Marti Rasmussen seconded the nomination of Mary Ausborn for Treasurer. The motions were voted on and approved. The candidates were voted on and both candidates were elected.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was read by Pat Cain and approved. The audit committee was formed and consists of Merlene Whisenand, Katie Pattee, Mary Lohr, Mary Ausborn, Gretchen Triplett and Pat Cain. They will plan to meet at Merlene's house. There was no library report.

Marti Rasmussen talked about upcoming programs.

- ❖ Feb 11 - Google Earth by Marti Rasmussen, Gwenna Jacobson and Mary Lohr
- ❖ March 11 - Searching the Past and Looking to the Future by Mary Ausborn
- ❖ April 8 - Oral History Interviews by Theresa Larson
- ❖ May 13 - Local Story Teller Mike Kean

SCGS always volunteers at IGS on the 1st Saturday of even months. Marilyn asked if we wanted to continue and for volunteers to go and to drive. Marti volunteered to drive and Merlene and Martha volunteered to go in February.

## NEW BUSINESS

Gretchen Triplett talked about several projects she was involved with about the National Woman's Relief Corp and the Civil War.

Lynette Spicer announced the 2013 Ames Historical Society Lecture Series. This series of four lectures is held at 7:00 pm at the Ames City Auditorium (520 6th Street, Ames, Iowa) on the last

Tuesday of January through April. A \$3 donation is requested from those who attend. She also gave a reminder that Ames Sesquicentennial is next year. The Lectures are:

**Tuesday, January 29, 2013** Making Waves: The People and Places of Iowa Broadcasting Jeff Stein, author, broadcast historian, and university educator

**Tuesday, February 26, 2013** Iowa Department of Transportation Centennial: 100 Years of Contributions to Ames, Our State, and the Nation Leighton Christiansen, DOT Archivist Andy Loonan, DOT Field Services Coordinator

**Tuesday, March 26, 2013** Mavericks, Minister, Movers & Shakers: The Mayors of Ames Shannon Bardole, Ames Historical Society Researcher

**Tuesday, April 30, 2013** By the Side of the Road: Along the Lincoln Highway in Ames Jeff Benson, Lincoln Highway Historian

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

The program was about John Ritland an immigrant to Story County from Norway who served during the Civil War and was presented by Glen and Mary Kapplemann. Mary is a descendent of John Ritland. The presentation included readings from John Ritland's Memoir.

## Story County Genealogical Society

January 2013 ♡ VOL. 46 ISSUE 2

### OFFICERS

President	Marilyn Peterson
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer	Mary Ausborn
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe

### NEWSLETTER

Editor Samara Thornock  
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Next issue March 2013

Deadline for Articles/Announcements

**Sunday, February 3, 2013**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

*All Meetings are scheduled for 7pm at the **Extension 4-H Youth Building on the north side of ISU campus** unless otherwise stated*

**February 11, 2013** Topic: Google Earth

*Speaker: Martha Rasmussen and Gwenna Jacobson*

**March 11, 2013** "Searching the Past,  
Looking toward the Future"

*Speaker: Mary Ausborn*

**April 8, 2013** "Saving Stories: an oral history  
project from the Ames Historical Society"

*Speaker: T.J. Larson*



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## 2013 Dates and Information of Note

### Iowa Genealogical Society 2013 Class Schedule

All Classes will be held at the Iowa Genealogical Society

628 E. Grand Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50309-1924

555-276-0287

Check the IGS website, <http://www.iowagenealogy.org/events/classes/>, for more information

#### Saturday February 16, 2013

Presenter: Theresa Liewer

**Beginning Genealogy** 10:30am-12:30pm  
FREE

**Catholic Records** 1:30pm - 3:30pm  
\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Monday February 18, 2013

Presenter: Theresa Liewer

**Illinois & Wisconsin Vital Records**

Lunch & Learn Noon - 1:00pm

\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Saturday March 9, 2013

Presenter: Kerry McGrath

**Beginning Genealogy** 10:30am-12:30pm  
FREE

Presenters: Michael O'Malley, Esq. &  
Theresa Liewer

**Wills & Probates** 1:30pm - 3:30pm  
\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Tuesday March 12, 2014

Presenter: Shari Snelling, SHSI

**A Library is a Library - Unless It's a  
SECIAL Library** 10:30am - 11:30pm

\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Saturday March 16, 2013

Presenter: Theresa Liewer

**Basic Irish Research** 10:30am-12:30pm  
\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

**Online Irish Research** 1:30pm - 3:30pm  
\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Monday April 22, 2013

**Indiana, Ohio, Michigan Vital Records**

Lunch & Learn noon - 1:00pm

Theresa Liewer \$5 IGS Members/\$10  
non members

#### Saturday April 27, 2013

Presenter: Linda Greethurst

**Beginning Genealogy** 10:30am - 12:30pm  
FREE

**Preparing for a Road Trip** 1:30 - 3:30pm  
\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Saturday May 18, 2013

**Beginning Genealogy Intro**

10:30am - 11:30am FREE

**OPEN HOUSE** Noon - 4pm

**Beginning Genealogy Intro**

1:30pm - 2:30pm FREE

#### Saturday June 8, 2013

Presenter: Linda Greethurst

**Indian War Records** 10:30am - 12:30pm  
FREE

**Exploring Online Newspapers**

1:30pm - 3:30pm

\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Saturday June 22, 2013

Presenter: Linda Greethurst

**Beginning Genealogy** 10:30am - 12:30pm  
FREE

**Exploring Online NewspapersB**

1:30pm - 3:30pm

\$5 IGS Members/\$10 non members

#### Beginning Genealogy Classes

Tuesday July 30 6pm - 8pm

Saturday Aug. 24 10:30am - 12:30pm

Saturday Sep. 21 10:30am - 12:30pm

Saturday Nov. 16 10:30am - 12:30pm

## FREE BINDERS

Are you in need notebooks/binders to organize your genealogy or other pursuits? If so, please contact Merlene Whisenand at [geniemom2@gmail.com](mailto:geniemom2@gmail.com).

She has up to 8 2"-3" notebooks available and would be happy to bring them to the next meeting if someone else will take them home ☺



### 2013 Annual Lecture Series

All lectures will be at Ames City Auditorium, A \$3 freewill donation is requested at the door

#### Tuesday, February 26, 7pm

Iowa Department of Transportation  
Centennial: 100 Years of  
Contributions to Ames, our State and  
the Nation

*By Leighton Christiansen, DOT  
Archivist & Andy Loonan, DOT Field  
Services Coordinator*

#### Tuesday, March 26, 7pm

Mavericks, Movers & Shakers,  
Minister: The Mayors of Ames  
*By Shannon Bardole, Ames Historical  
Society Researcher*

#### Tuesday April 30, 7pm

By the Side of the Road: Along the  
Lincoln Highway in Ames  
*By Jeff Benson, Lincoln Highway  
Historian*



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# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

MARCH 2013

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VOL. 46 ISSUE 3

## MEETING LOCATION CHANGE!

**NEXT PROGRAM: MON., MAR.. 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2013, 7PM  
AMES CITY HALL  
ROOM 135**

In a February letter to Vice President Marti Rasmussen, 4-H Youth Development Interim Director Judy Levings, and Program specialist Mitchell Hoyer notified the SCGS that "Iowa State University has been in the process of reviewing the use of their buildings and the Extension 4-H Building [was] included in that review." They further explained that group patrons of ISU premises must hold at least 1 million dollars of liability insurance and that per a recent decision by ISU restricts the use of its facilities only to organizations directly associated with the University.

Meeting will continue to start at 7pm. Locations for the remaining Spring programs will vary and are as follows:

- ❖ **March 11 - Ames City Hall, Room 135**  
515 Clark Ave, Ames, IA  
Mary Ausborn and Mary Lohr presenting
- ❖ **Apr. 8 - Ames Historical Society Conference Room**  
416 Douglas Ave., Ames, IA  
Teresa J. Larson, "Saving Stories: An Oral History Project from the Ames Historical Society"
- ❖ **May 13 - Bertha Bartlett Public Library**  
503 Broad St., Story City, IA  
Mike King, storyteller will show us ways to prepare and present our family stories at family reunions and other summer family gatherings.

## Searching the Past Looking Toward the Future



By Mary Ausborn, *SCGS Treasurer*  
and Mary Lohr

Do you have a Pioneer Certificate? Would you like one? If you can prove you are a direct descendent to someone who lived in Iowa in 1856 or before you qualify for one through the Iowa Genealogical Society.

Come to the SCGS March meeting and Mary Ausborn will tell you how she got hers and give you some pointers to use when you get your own. She'll also be discussing why she is still always looking for more information.

Mary Lohr will continue our series on using Google Earth for genealogy. She will demonstrate how to find information on land patents (and perhaps a copy of the documents). Then by using Google Earth she will show how to locate and plot the homesteaded land.

The meeting will be held in Ames City Hall, Room 135. This is a room where the SCGS has met before. Enter from West door on right and pass info desk to hallway to your left. We're in the first room on your right.

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## Iowa Settlers and The Fergusons

Part 2 of 4

Submitted by Gretchen Triplett

The war began on April 12, 1861, when the Confederate Army fired on Fort Sumter. This was considered an act of aggression by President Lincoln. On April 15, 1861, he issued a call for seventy-five thousand volunteers for three months service. There were multitudes of enlistments. With communications very slow and difficult in Iowa, it was three days before Story County residents knew of the battle at Fort Sumter. Hence, despite acting swiftly to respond to Lincoln's call, Governor Kirkwood had already filled the first quota for Iowa.

But it did happen that four young men from this county were enlisted in the Linn County company. Three of these four were students at Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, the fourth was George F. Schoonover. The three students were Jason D. Ferguson, Harrison H. Boyes and Addison Davis. They were part of the First Iowa Infantry Volunteers. They all saw later service in other regiments. Ferguson expected upon his return to join Company B of the Second Iowa Calvary, which had been organized in Story and Marshall Counties before their muster out, but which had not yet left Davenport for the South.

However, at Cedar Rapids, he was persuaded to stop and help raise a company there, the invitation coming from Captain John H. Stibbs who had been orderly sergeant of Company K, in the First Iowa and in which Ferguson also served. Stibbs became captain of Company A, Twelfth Iowa Infantry, and later colonel of that regiment. Ferguson was elected first lieutenant of this company. He had displayed soldiery qualities besides conspicuous gallantry at the Battle of Wilson's Creek (Missouri). This battle was actually claimed by the Rebs, but the Union troops kept control of northern Missouri. Upon mustering out, Stibbs and Ferguson secured as many of their comrades of the First Iowa as were willing to enlist.

Jason D. Ferguson was killed on the first day of fighting at the Battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862. He was twenty-two years of age.

... More to come next month

## How I got Bit by the Bug

By Luanne Guss Endreland



I am a second generation member of the SCGS. My mother, Janet Guss, was a charter member. I don't remember this, of course, I was 15 at the time and what 15 year old girl pays attention to what their mother is doing. I do remember going to cemeteries with her as a child, walking around. We even did some etchings and the flour thing to bring out the letters on the stones. It was interesting but I was a kid back then. Just not into it.

My mother did all her research by snail-mail and by talking to relatives. That was when most of the older ones were still alive. When I was born, both sets of my grandparents were still living and I knew 3 of my great-grandmothers and sort of remember 2 of my great-grandfathers. Not too many can say that now can they.

Fast forward a few years, a couple of marriages, and 3 kids. My mother was diagnosed with lung cancer. I don't think she was doing too much research by then. She didn't have a very good prognosis, so she made each of her kids (4 of them) a heritage book. She used a magnetic photo album, very bad for your photos, and started with my first child. She then continued with assorted pictures of me: baby pics, school pics, and wedding photos. The third generation was of my parents, 4th generation-my grandparents and so forth back as far as she had pictures. She listed the names and dates of people. There were blank spots if she didn't have a picture. I think there were at least 8 generations in there. I loved it! She died at the young age of 53 in 1985.

I began scrapbooking in the early 1990's. I loved taking pictures, and I had a bunch of them. I still have boxes in the closet I haven't gotten to. Well, when I started, I began to think of redoing the album that mom had done for me. I had gotten married again and had 2 more kids and I knew I had more pictures I wanted to use. I just needed the right album, and I found the perfect black leather one. Very classy.

Dad had asked me a few years before that if I would be interested in mom's boxes of genealogy papers. He was trying to clean out his house. I took them and just put them up in my attic, until I had more time. Well,

("How I got Bit by the Bug" Continued on page 3)



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when I started to think about redoing the album, those boxes started talking to me.

I brought them down and started looking through them. There were notebooks and letters from people and old magazines from the Iowa Genealogical Society. It also had lots of assorted pieces of paper with assorted bits of info. The more I looked through everything the more I was pulled in and knew I needed to continue what my mother had started, to fill in the blank spots.

With the help of the internet I have built quite the family tree and when you add my children's in-laws too it makes for a big tree. You might even call it a forest. I even work on friend's trees when I get tired of doing mine. I tell people it is a chronic disorder, no cure, no treatment. It comes and goes, sometime you don't do anything for awhile then you end up doing some late nights on the computer just trying to find that one person you know is out there somewhere.

Well, I'm off on the hunt. Happy hunting to all of you.!

## Have a Facebook Account?

By Mary Lohr

Have a Facebook account? Please "like" the SCGS page at [Facebook.com/storygenes](https://www.facebook.com/storygenes)

To ensure you are getting all the postings, check the "Get Notifications" and "Show in News Feed" as indicated in the image located on this page.

No need to worry about email or news feed saturation because we only post a few items monthly: when SCGS News is



published, meeting reminders, SCGS happenings, and occasional other genealogy news items.

At the top of your Facebook home page, you can enter "genealogy" or "family history" in the search box to find additional pages or groups to follow.

*Genealogy Bulletin Board* and *Iowa Genealogy* are two open groups. Click "Join Group" and you can follow their postings as well. *Social Media for Genealogy* and *Technology for Genealogy* are "closed" groups. You can usually read the postings to a group but not comment unless you have joined that group or "liked" that page. But, by clicking "Request to Join", Facebook sends your request to the group administrator, and within a few minutes or a few hours you may be able to have that capability.

So, you may want to consider joining the world of Facebook. Yes, there is frivolous stuff there, but if you focus on the genealogy aspect your time may be well-spent.

And just like everything else in the online world, the look and feel of Facebook may have changed yet again by the time you read this. Updates and changes are frequent.



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

## Story County Genealogical Society

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
or pay Treasurer Mary Ausborn, at a SCGS meeting.  
Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_ \$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2013.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

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ADDRESS _____	
CITY _____	STATE _____
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## Local Gem

By Samara Thornock, *Editor*

Where can you find free patron access to several subscription-based websites, as well as over 3 billion records of deceased persons from some 100 countries—including birth, marriage, and death records; censuses; probates and wills; land records, and more? Right here in Ames.

Due to cooperation with government archives, churches, and libraries around the globe, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has created the world's largest collection of family history records. Since 1972, the LDS Family History Center here in Ames has been a working satellite of that collection and is a proven resource for SCGS members and other genealogical enthusiasts in our area. Many SCGS members volunteer their time at the Center and provide a wealth of experience and expertise to the public at large.

When asked what resources she feels the Center offers that would be valuable to members of the SCGS, Mary Lohr offered the following:

"About ten years ago, I started using the Family History Center here in Ames. My heaviest use has come from renting microfilms from Salt Lake City. Two moments stand out: on a Saturday in February about eight years ago, I discovered the marriage record of my great-grandparents and let out a shout of glee! It was an exciting event, and my happiness was shared by those in the Center that day. The second moment occurred when I found the birth record for my husband's great-grandfather. Two years ago, I was privileged to see the actual record in Germany...but having already seen the microfilmed copy made that moment even more special.

"For me, the single most valuable resource offered is the ability to borrow microfilms to examine records. The second are the databases that are available for use (and free)."

Annette Anderegg, past SCGS program presenter and recent SCGS member, is the center director. She recently stated, "My personal favorites right now are [newspaperarchive.com](http://newspaperarchive.com) and [Fold3.com](http://Fold3.com). However, I feel one of the most valuable resources we can offer is the person-to-person help when a researcher has specific questions. The combined years of experience, knowledge, and passion for genealogy available through our staff offer a unique resource for genealogists."

The Family History Center is located inside the LDS Church building at 2524 Hoover Avenue. Patrons can enter through the southeast doors and will find the Center at the end of the hall. Its hours of operation are Tuesdays Noon-9pm, Thursdays 9am-Noon and 6pm-9pm, and Saturdays (1st and 3rd) 9am-Noon. For questions or more information, contact Annette Anderegg at [anderegg224@yahoo.com](mailto:anderegg224@yahoo.com) or visit [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org).

## Historical Weather Research

By Lorraine Pellack

*Science & Technology Department Head  
Iowa State University Library*



Tornado season is just around the corner. In Iowa, it usually occurs from late April through June. Have you ever wondered if any of your ancestors lived through (or died from) tornadoes or from other weather-related events?

In modern times, weather records are very detailed and news accounts provide thorough details about the number of deaths/injuries involved in each event. However, in the early days of frontier settlement accounts of these events are harder to find. Individual events were mentioned in diaries (only some of which survived) and are available in libraries/archives. Newspaper accounts would often include information on particularly noteworthy weather occurrences such as major tornadoes, floods and snowstorms.

In the Midwest, prairie fires were pretty common and not really considered noteworthy unless they were extremely large or particularly damaging. History books tend to cover weather-related hazards/deaths in passing with very few details. Finding any sort of "master list" of these types of events is pretty hard to come by. Newer books, such as the Hurricane Almanac, tend to cover only the major events and mainly those from the 20th century. None of the sources mentioned below include all events, but give some of these a whirl:

❖ **Iowa Tornadoes for 51 years, 1837-1887** by John P. Finley published by J.H. Soule in Washington D.C., in 1888.

This book lists 120 tornadoes and gives some summary statistics - e.g., 1886 was the year with the largest number of storms that spawned tornadoes and Crawford county had the largest number during this time period. For each tornado, it lists the month, day, year, time of day, direction, form of cloud, and width of path. This book has been digitized by Google and is freely available on the web at <http://tinyurl.com/cc8dnfq>.

❖ **Tornado: Accounts of Tornadoes in Iowa** - by John L. Stanford, published in Ames by the ISU Press, 1977.

Available in the ISU Library General Collection and the State Historical Society of Iowa Library. Chapter 3 talks about noteworthy tornadoes from 1803-1976 and has a table on page 28 that lists Iowa tornadoes reported prior to 1870. The 3 most destructive tornadoes in Iowa were the Camanche (in 1860 - 141 people killed outright and many of the injured died bringing the death total up to nearly 200), Grinnell (1882 - 130

("Historical Weather Research" Continued on page 5)



people killed) and Pomeroy (1893 - 71 deaths) tornadoes. This book has maps showing the routes these 3 storms took through the state and provides a lot of detail about the large tornado events in Iowa. For the smaller, less destructive tornadoes there is simply a mention of the date and location and sometimes amount of damage done.

#### ❖ **The Climatic History of Polk County, Iowa**

An 11 page publication that covers tornadoes, storms, floods, and blizzards that occurred in Polk County. [Not owned at ISU but it is available at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library.]

For historical weather events in other U.S. states, you might want to take a look at:

#### ❖ **Early American Tornadoes, 1586-1870** by David M. Ludlum, published by the American Meteorological Society in Boston Mass., in 1970.

This was number 4 in a series called "History of American Weather." The back of the volume contains a chronological index (by region) and a geographic index. Other volumes in the series include Early American Hurricanes, 1492-1870; Early American Winters 1604-1820, and Early American Winters 1821-1870. Early American Winters volumes contain a geographic index and an index of persons mentioned. The ISU Library has all of the volumes in this series in Storage at: QC857 U6 H56. Early American Tornadoes is also available from the State Historical Society Library.

#### ❖ **Significant Tornadoes, 1680-1991** by Thomas P. Grazulis published in 1993 by Environmental Films

A massive volume, but, as its name implies, it only covers "significant" tornadoes in the U.S. The first part of the volume is arranged in order by U.S. state and then for each state the charts are in order by date of the tornado. The back of the volume is in order by date and then in order by state giving more details of each tornado. This book summarizes the number of deaths by tornado for each decade (on page 2) - with the largest numbers occurring from 1920-1929. Available in the Parks Library Reference Collection at ISU at: QC955.5 U6 G73x 1993.

To locate more books similar to these - try using WorldCat - <http://www.worldcat.org/>. This is a freely-accessible database. BELOW the search box, click on the link to Advanced Search.

Then type terms in the box and change the dropdown menu to have it search only in the "subject." Try searches like: "Floods Iowa history" or "drought Iowa" or "grasshoppers Kansas history" or "blizzards Illinois."

Additional information can often be located by browsing through history books on a particular geographic area. For example - in the Parks Library at ISU:



#### ❖ **More True Tales of Old-Time Kansas** by David Dary. Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Press, 1987.

This book has a section devoted to "tornadoes, floods, grasshoppers, blizzards and prairie fires" and provides many details including dates and damage caused.



#### ❖ **Iowa Through the Years** by Cyrenus Cole.

Iowa City, IA: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1940.

On page 211, in the middle of a chapter explaining the origin and growth of population in Iowa, is one of the few places I have seen any mention of rainfall impact on pioneers. "In Iowa history the years 1849, 1850, and 1851 are known as wet years. In 1849 the rainfall was fifty-nine inches, in 1850 forty-nine inches were recorded, and in 1851 almost seventy-five inches. In 1851 rain fell so continuously from early May to the middle of July that few crops were planted...When the waters subsided what was left in pools under blazing suns became breeding places for mosquitoes and diseases. The ague, or 'shaking fever', carried by mosquitoes afflicted nearly all the people, and when an outbreak of cholera followed so many died that they could hardly be buried decently. What had been a land of promise became almost a land of despair. Many fled from the State." If you had ancestors who left the state (or died) in 1851-1852, this might be why!! If you had ancestors who survived living in Iowa during these years - wow! This book is freely accessible online at:

<http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015027933772>

#### ❖ **The Sod-House Frontier, 1854-1890** by Everett Dick. Lincoln, NE: Johnsen Publishing Company, 1954.

Chapter 15, "Nature Frowns on Mankind," is an interesting read that gives information about types of natural events along with what it was like to live through it. It includes "the great calamity of the year 1874" (which was commonly referred to as the grasshopper year); prairie fires; the winters of 1855-1856 and 1880-1881; and blizzards of 1871, 1873, 1885, and 1888. Blizzards were noted to have accompanying "electrical phenomena" which caused settlers to get mild shocks from touching metal objects! This book also appears to be freely available on the web at:

<http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015007029765>

The ISU Library welcomes researchers to visit and use the computers, databases and collections! It is open to the public, and all collections (print and electronic) may be used freely on-site. For information about visiting campus, see the university page at: <http://www.iastate.edu/visitors/homepage.shtml>

I am always happy to assist visitors or answer questions about our resources. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to help!





# Meeting Minutes

February 2013

The February 2013 Meeting, held February 11th, was called to order at 7:00 by President Marilyn Peterson at the Extension 4-H Youth Building on ISU Campus. There were 24 members and 9 guests were present.

Guests were asked to introduce themselves if they wanted. Marti Rasmussen announced that future meetings will be canceled for weather, if Ames schools are cancelled because of weather. Mary Lohr announced that the SCGS website is [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com) and that the SCGS facebook page is [www.facebook.com/storygenes](http://www.facebook.com/storygenes).

## OLD BUSINESS

The minutes of the January meeting were amended. The speaker for the May meeting was incorrectly written as Mike Kean and should have been Mike King, also Katie Patee was incorrectly listed as being a member of the Auditing Committee and was not a member. The Minutes were approved as amended.

The treasurer's report was read by Mary Ausborn and approved. Mary said she would have a new membership list ready for people at the March meeting.

The audit committee consisting of Merlene Whisenand, Mary Lohr, Mary Ausborn, Gretchen Triplett and Pat Cain reported that the audit showed that all was OK and in good order.

Lucille Wahrenbrock gave the Library report. She said that a \$500 book order is placed each year and SCGS contributes \$250 and the Library contributes the other \$250. If anyone has suggestions for subjects or titles they would like please tell Lucille.

Marti Rasmussen talked about upcoming programs.

Gretchen Triplett made an announcement that the Rededication of the Story County Civil War Monument has been moved to Nevada. SCGS as well as all the county Historical Societies are sponsoring this rededication. She will give us more details as it is decided.

A reminder was made about the 2013 Ames Historical Society Lecture Series. This series of four lectures is held at 7:00 pm at the Ames City Auditorium (520 6th Street, Ames, Iowa) on the last Tuesday of January through April. A \$3 donation is requested from those who attend. She also gave a reminder that Ames Sesquicentennial is next year. The Lectures are:

**Tuesday, January 29, 2013** Making Waves: The People and Places of Iowa Broadcasting Jeff Stein, author, broadcast historian, and university educator  
**Tuesday, February 26, 2013** Iowa Department of Transportation Centennial: 100 Years of Contributions to Ames, Our State, and the Nation Leighton Christiansen, DOT Archivist Andy Loonan, DOT Field

Services Coordinator **Tuesday, March 26, 2013** Mavericks, Minister, Movers & Shakers: The Mayors of Ames Shannon Bardole, Ames Historical Society Researcher **Tuesday, April 30, 2013** By the Side of the Road: Along the Lincoln Highway in Ames Jeff Benson, Lincoln Highway Historian

## NEW BUSINESS

Trish Sawyer announced a special program at the Bertha Bartlett Public Library in Story City. It is at **7:00 on Tuesday February 12th: Iowans Who Fought Against the Union by David Connan.**

Marilyn Peterson said that next month a member will share a research story of about 5 minutes. This will be a regular feature at future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

The program was about Using Google Earth to Explore Your Family History by Marti Rasmussen and Gwenna Jacobson.

# Story County Genealogical Society

March 2013 ♡ VOL. 46 ISSUE 3

## OFFICERS

President	Marilyn Peterson
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer	Mary Ausborn
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe

## NEWSLETTER

Editor Samara Thornock  
 P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
 email: [samara\\_thornock@hotmail.com](mailto:samara_thornock@hotmail.com)

Next issue April 2013  
 Deadline for Articles/Announcements

**Friday, March 29, 2013**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

<b>March 11, 2013</b> Ames City Hall Room 135	"Searching the Past, Looking toward the Future" Speakers: Mary Ausborn and Mary Lohr
<b>April 8, 2013</b> Ames Historical Society Conference Room	"Saving Stories: an oral history project from the Ames Historical Society" Speaker: T.J. Larson
<b>May 13, 2013</b> Bertha Bartlett Public Library	Storytelling Speaker: Mike King



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VOL. 46 ISSUE 4

## MEETING LOCATION CHANGE!

NEXT PROGRAM: MON., APR.. 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2013, 7PM

**AMES HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
416 DOUGLAS AVE., AMES

Locations for the remaining Spring programs will vary and are as follows:

- ❖ **Apr. 8 - Ames Historical Society Conference Room**  
416 Douglas Ave., Ames, IA  
Teresa J. Larson, "Saving Stories: An Oral History Project from the Ames Historical Society"
- ❖ **May 13 - Bertha Bartlett Public Library**  
503 Broad St., Story City, IA  
Mike King, storyteller will show us ways to prepare and present our family stories at family reunions and other summer family gatherings.

## Membership Fees Due April 1<sup>st</sup>

Your yearly membership fees make it possible for the Story County Genealogical Society to continue on with its work in family history both for its members and the community. Dues contribute to rent for meeting facilities, traveling and presentation allowances for the monthly program, and printing and distribution of the newsletter, among many other costs.

Dues can be paid to the treasurer, Mary Ausborn, at the upcoming meeting or may be mailed in. For questions or more information, please contact Mary or review the membership form found on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Saving Stories: An Oral History Project from the Ames Historical Society



By Teresa J. Larson

For several years, the Ames Historical Society has been conducting an Oral History program. Teresa Beer Larson is the principal interviewer and she has recorded more than 30 conversations with people who have interesting stories about Ames from days gone by. Some of the people are well known and some are "ordinary" citizens. Teresa's presentation for the Story County Genealogical Society will describe the how the program began, how it operates now, and why it has become so valuable from a historic perspective as well as a good source of entertainment! Teresa will also talk about conducting your own oral history interviews remarking on techniques to use for your own family stories from relatives and friends.

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## Ride Sharing

As previously published, the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the Bertha Barlett Public Library in Story City. We recognized that this may pose a transportation challenge to some of our members. A ride sharing sign-up will be circulating at the upcoming April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting for those either willing to give rides or in need of transportation to the May meeting.

If you will not be in attendance April 8<sup>th</sup> and would still like a ride, or are willing to give a ride to another, please contact Marti Rasmussen at [mrasmussen5@gmail.com](mailto:mrasmussen5@gmail.com) or at 515-292-9309.

## Mark Your Calendars: Local Civil War Commemoration and Monument Rededication

By Gretchen Triplett

A brief ceremony honoring Civil War Sesquicentennial will be held at noon, Friday, June 14, 2013 at the Story County administration building in Nevada. The event focuses on two artifacts in front of the building, the bronze Lincoln's Gettysburg Address tablet and the captured Confederate cannon on display at the front of the building.

Also being honored will be all Story County volunteers in the Civil War, all those mortally wounded, and the many soldiers who emigrated to Story County following the war and found their final resting place here. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will do a re-dedication of the artifacts (SUVCW are re-enactors). The national president of the National Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, will lay a wreath on the tablet. We've invited Governor Branstad or the Lt. Gov. and the Boy Scouts and other notables to participate in the ceremony.

Put it on your calendar to drive over to Nevada, and bring a carload!

## Excerpts from *Library Book Purchases*

An article contributed by Lucille Wahrenbrock to the Story County Chapter of the Iowa Genealogical Society History. Originally published in 1998



“Almost from the beginning of the Story County Genealogical Society, books became a part of the program. First there was the somewhat limited collection in the Ames Public Library. Some of the members owned “how to” books and titles concerning their own research and these were discussed and shared. Eventually the chapter acquired enough books to be called a small library.

“At first these were housed in the home of one member or another. Lea McPhail was one who offered her home for the library and for research for limited periods of time. When this began to be a burden, both for the person who was looking after the books, and for those wanting to use them, there was much discussion concerning this problem.

“In time, what turned out to be a happy solution was found. The Ames Public Library would provide space for the books, add them to their catalog, maintain them, but would also own them. It was a difficult decision for the chapter to make. Would they be safe, or gradually be lost? The compromise was to donate the books to the library, but for use in the library only.

“At a somewhat later date, either the chapter, or the Ames Public Librarian, or both together, made the suggestion that a \$500.00 order for genealogy books be made annually, the library to pay half and the chapter to pay half. This was started in 1979, and has continued to this time.

(“Library Books . . .” Continued on page 3)



"The chapter librarian prepares a list of suggested books for the acquisition librarian to choose from. Additional suggestions are always welcome. . . .

"There has never been a formal policy adopted for choosing the books. But it is understood that an attempt will be made to find books helpful in doing research in different parts of this county, as well as other countries, and in different periods of time. We have not purchased family histories, but several have been donated by individuals. We have avoided books about single counties, hoping that by concentrating on wider areas, the books will be useful to more people. In addition to our own members, may other visitors to the library, from Ames, Story County, and farther afield, are finding this a helpful collection. . . ."

See a copy of the 2013 suggested book order on page 6 at of this publication!

## Giggle, Giggle, Teehee!

Submitted by Merlene Whisenhand



We recently ran into a newspaper column, which says that there is a "Roots" disease, so with tongue in cheek, here it is:

I know a few, and undoubtedly there are many of them around here, although not as many as there are, say in Philadelphia. Who?? Those folk who have a passion for tracing ancestry.

"Anyhow, back in Philadelphia a "warning" sign has appeared near the front door of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. The sign is topped by a large type caution: "Quarantined!" Then comes: "The inhabitants of this place have been stricken with genealogy fever, a deadly and infectious disease.

"Symptoms are note papers stuffed in pockets & files: hear palpitations at the sight of old gravestones

and old trunks filled with letters, bloodshot eyes from excessive microfilm exposure; erratic speech patterns punctuated with pilgrims and princes; cold sweat upon the arrival of the daily mail." And in large type: "INCURABLE!:" If you have genealogy fever yourself, or know someone so afflicted, you know that recital of symptoms is accurate.

The above was sent to the corresponding secretary by one of her many correspondents. I thought it was worth passing on, so you would know what you really have when you are thinking about researching for that "missing ancestor".

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## Ten Common Genealogy Myths

By Mary Lohr

1. Our surname was changed at Ellis Island.
2. We are related to royalty, even though we had to skip four (or fourteen) generations to prove it.
3. My immigrant ancestor was a stowaway on the ship.
4. Grandma said it, so it must be true.
5. Our family has a coat-of-arms.
6. There is a Cherokee princess in our family ancestry.
7. All genealogy records are on the Internet.
8. If it's on the Internet, then it's true.
9. All persons with the same surname are related.
10. My ancestor had two brothers: one went south, one went north, and mine went west.

*Editors Note:* Don't be afraid to pay careful attention to your family's particular myth! When something sounds unique, learn more, and kindly ask from what source a person has understood their information. Correct or not, you'll be rewarded with something fantastic!



## Iowa Settlers and The Fergusons

Submitted by Gretchen Triplett

We had told about Jason D. Ferguson as a quite able young man from Lafayette Township who had enrolled at Cornell College. Upon hearing of Lincoln's call for volunteers to quiet the rebellion, Ferguson joined Company D, First Iowa Infantry for the three months term of service, actually four months by the time they were mustered out. At once he planned to volunteer from Story County, but was stopped in Cedar Rapids by Captain Stibbs, who persuaded him to help form a new regiment. He did, and was elected lieutenant of Company K, Twelfth Iowa Infantry. He served with credit as a competent and acceptable officer at Fort Donelson and distinguished himself at Shiloh, receiving, the evening of April 6, 1862, about the time of the surrender of his regiment, a mortal wound.

William O. Payne, in History of Story County, Iowa, (1911) includes a tender tribute to Ferguson by Captain E. B. Soper:

"On the march to the position assigned to the command, a premonition of certain death, that day, came to Ferguson, and he communicated it to a friend Nathan G. Price and possibly others, yet he conducted himself with great gallantry. Between attacks of the enemy where the regiment was positioned at the Hornet's Nest at Shiloh, Tennessee, he imparted messages to a friend for his family and kindred and also specified articles he desired sent to each. When surrounded and while attempting to break through the rebel lines toward the Landing at the camp of the Third Iowa Infantry, a bullet inflicted him with a mortal wound. Price, upon learning the fact, asked permission to care for him, and the privilege was granted and a confederate guard placed in charge.

"During the night, Price and his guard were employed, not only in caring for Ferguson, but other wounded of both armies. The night was indescribable, rain falling, groans of wounded and dying, bursting shells from the gun boats exploding on them but nevertheless both faithfully worked, bring water and ministering to the sufferers. . . ."

. . . More to come next month



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

### Story County Genealogical Society

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
or pay Treasurer Mary Ausborn, at a SCGS meeting.  
Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_ \$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2013.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

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## Meeting Minutes

held March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013 7pm

The March 2013 Meeting, was called to order by Vice President Marti Rasmussen at the Ames City Hall. There were 14 members and 3 guests present. Guests were asked to introduce themselves if they wanted.

An announcement was made that the April 3rd meeting will be at the Ames Historical Society Building.

Katie Patee gave a talk from her great grandmother's memoir about the civil war in Missouri.

### OLD BUSINESS

The minutes of the February meeting were amended. The Civil War Rededication Ceremony is on Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>, in Nevada, Iowa. The Minutes were approved as amended.

The treasurer's report was read by Mary Ausborn and approved. Mary handed out a new membership list ready. There are 34 paid members.

Lucille Wahrenbrock gave the Library report. She said that a \$500 book order is placed each year and SCGS contributes \$250 and the Library contributes the other \$250. She passed around a list of books to be purchased.

Mary Lohr passed around pictures that were mailed to SCGS by someone who asked if we could help identify the people in the pictures.

Gretchen Triplett talked about the upcoming of Civil War Rededication Ceremony.

On Flag Day, June 14, 2013, a ceremony commemorating the original dedication of two important Story County Civil War artifacts will be held in Nevada. 2013 marks the Sesquicentennial observance of the Civil War.

A cannon and bronze tablet, long a part of Story County, IA, history, will be re-dedicated at noon in front of the Story County Administration Building, 900 Sixth Street, Nevada IA. The cannon is a Confederate Parrott 3-inch cannon that was placed in front of the old courthouse in 1901 by the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic). The tablet, mounted on granite, features a profile of President Abraham Lincoln and the words of the Gettysburg Address. It was dedicated on Flag Day 1930 by the WRC (Women's Relief Corps).

SUVCW (Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War) re-enactors will take part in the ceremony that will also honor Jason Devillo Ferguson, Story County's first hero of the Civil War. He was mortally wounded at the Battle of Shiloh, 6 April 1862, where he is buried. Grand Army of the Republic Post #31 and the Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the GAR Post #147 are named in his honor. These organizations donated the historic cannon and tablet to the county.

All Civil War soldiers who volunteered will be honored as well as the 550 veterans who found their final resting place in Story County. The event is supported by Story County Board of Supervisors, Story County Veterans Affairs, IGS, SCGS, Story City Historical Society, Slater Area Historical Association, Nevada Community Historical Society, Maxwell Community

Historical Society, Ames Historical Society, Cambridge Historical Association Society, Gilbert Historical Society and Huxley Historical Society.

Gretchen also talked about the Music that is being planned for the ceremony and that she hopes the boy scouts will also be included in the ceremony. There is a 17 inch flyer that is being prepared that will record this important event.

Gretchen asked that SCGS to donate money for the Rededication Event. Katie Pattee, Samara Thorton and Merlene Whisenand made a motion and seconded it that we give \$50 dollars to the Rededication Event. Mary Lohr said that since we are a sponsor we should donate the money. It was voted on and approved.

A reminder was given that on Saturday April 6th SCGS will volunteer at the IGS library. Marti will drive.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mari Rasmussen brought up the idea that we should have help sessions this summer, possibly in June, at the Library. Two people would volunteer at a time, and assist people who come in with genealogy questions and also help them do Computer lookups. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

The program was a talk about Using Google Earth to Plot Your Ancestors Homestead by Mary Lohr, and a talk by Mary Ausborn about her experience in obtaining an Iowa Pioneer Certificate from IGS entitled "Searching the Past, Looking Toward the Future."

---

## Story County Genealogical Society

April 2013  VOL. 46 ISSUE 4

### OFFICERS

President	Marilyn Peterson
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer	Mary Ausborn
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe

### NEWSLETTER

Editor Samara Thornock  
P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
email: [samara\\_thornock@hotmail.com](mailto:samara_thornock@hotmail.com)

Next issue

May 2013

Deadline for Articles/Announcements is **April 26, 2013**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**April 8, 2013**

**Ames Historical Society  
Conference Room**

"Saving Stories: an oral history  
project from the Ames Historical  
Society"

*Speaker: T.J. Larson*

**May 13, 2013**

**Bertha Bartlett  
Public Library**

Storytelling

*Speaker: Mike King*



**SCGS News**

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## Ames Public Library Suggested Book Order 2013

<i>An Armory of American Families of Dutch Descent</i> NYG&B Society	\$90.00
<i>Classic Reprints: Genealogies, Local Histories, and More</i> NEHGS Book Store, NEHGS, Boston	\$12.95
<i>Education and Ontario Family History</i> Marian Press, Dundurn Press, 3 Church St., STE. 500, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	\$19.95
<i>Family Chronicle's Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors</i>	\$9.95
<i>General Alphabetical Index to the Town lands and Towns, Parishes, and Baronies of Ireland, Based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851</i>	\$60.00
<i>The Genealogist's Google Toolbox</i> Family Chronicle	\$24.95
<i>Genealogy at a Glance: French - Canadian Genealogy Research</i> Denise R. Larson. Gen. Pub.	\$7.95
<i>The German Churches of Metropolitan New York: a Research Guide.</i>	\$18.00
<i>Index o Obituary Notices in the Religious Herald, Richmond VA, 1828-1938</i>	\$40.00
<i>Military Bounty land, 1776-1885</i> Christine Rose. CR Publications, 1474 Montelegre Dr., San Jose, CA 95120	\$19.95+
<i>My Ancestor was Scottish</i> Alan Stewart, Society of Genealogists Enterprises Ltd., <a href="http://www.sog.org.uk">www.sog.org.uk</a>	\$15.00?
<i>A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland, 2nd. ed.</i>	
<i>New England Marriages prior to 1790</i> Clarence Almon Torrey	\$84.95
<i>Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland</i> James R. Reilly. Gen. Pub.	\$25.00
<i>Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island</i> James N. Arnold, Gen. Pub.	\$55.00
<i>Time Traveler's Handbook: a Guide to the Past</i> Althea Douglas, Dundurn Press, 3 Church St. STE. 3506, Toronto, Canada	\$19.95
<i>Tracing Your Prisoner of War Ancestors: The First World War</i> Sarah Peterson. Pen & Sword Books Ltd.	\$29.95
<i>Tracing Your War of 1812 Ancestors</i> David A. Norris. Family Chronicle	\$9.95
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$543.50</b>





# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

MAY 2013

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VOL. 46 ISSUE 4

## MEETING LOCATION CHANGE!

**NEXT PROGRAM: MON., MAY 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 7PM  
BERTHA BARTLETT  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
STORY CITY, IA**

As previously published, the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the Bertha Bartlett Public Library in Story City. We recognized that this may pose a transportation challenge to some of our members. A ride sharing sign-up was circulated at the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting for those either willing to give rides or in need of transportation.

If you missed the sign-up and would like a ride or could offer one to someone else, please contact Marti Rasmussen at [mart515@yahoo.com](mailto:mart515@yahoo.com) or at 515-292-9309.

Starting in September, the monthly meetings and program will be held at Northcrest Community Green Room.

## Correction Regarding Membership Dues

Misinformation was previously published pertaining to the time of membership fee collection and appointed due date. Please note that the following correction. Thank you for your patience in this matter:

As per the Story County Genealogical Society Constitutional bylaws, the cost of membership is set in November of the year prior to collection. Dues are then requested in January. If not paid by March 30<sup>th</sup>, a person is no longer considered an active society member. While meetings are open to the public, the newsletter will no longer automatically be distributed to that person and other benefits of membership are no longer available.

So pay your dues today!

## CRAFTING YOUR FAMILY STORIES FOR FUN

By Luanne Endreland

Mike King has been a resident of Story County, Iowa for almost 35 years and officially telling stories for about 30 years, mostly with "Family of Fools", a storytelling, drama, clowning troupe. Current Past President of Two Rivers Story Spinners, he has also serve on the Board of Directors for the Northlands Storytelling Network and on STORY! Board planning "STORY! Celebrating the Art of Storytelling" Festival in Story City.

## GS Webpage Updates

By Mary Lohr

The Iowa Genealogical Society webpage ([iowagenealogy.org](http://iowagenealogy.org)) has been upgraded and one of the new features is an Index tab, located near the top of the page.

If you click the Indexes tab you will find a listing of cemeteries in Iowa (listed by county), a military index to Camp Dodge records (currently A-K, more being added), and an index to Ankeny obituaries. On the Ankeny index the person may not have lived in Ankeny but had a connection to the community.

To obtain a copy of the Camp Dodge records or an Ankeny obituary, contact IGS: [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org) or 515-276-0287

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# FamilySearch.org Launches Family Tree for All Users

By Tara Bergeson

Submitted by Annette Anderegg

*First published in the FamilySearch.org*

*Consultants Blog March 27, 2013*

Family Tree is now available to all who use the FamilySearch website. You can find it at [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org). Family Tree replaces the new.FamilySearch.org website. To begin using Family Tree, click the **Family Tree link** found on the FamilySearch.org home page. You can also access Family Tree directly by going to [www.FamilySearch.org/tree](http://www.FamilySearch.org/tree).

Family Tree offers several useful features that will make your family history work easier and far more efficient. These features include the following:

- **Share Your Data**—Family Tree organizes your genealogy into an easy-to-use genealogical tree format. Data of deceased individuals within your family tree is viewable by others who may share a common interest in researching the same lines you have. Information about living people is not viewable to the general public. Your own personal information is viewable only by you.
- **Collaborate with Others**—Family Tree enables you to easily collaborate your research with others in order to ensure that duplication is minimized and that you get the most out of your coordinated research efforts.
- **Make Corrections**—Deleting incorrect data, making corrections, and changing relationships is much easier in Family Tree.
- **Provide Sources**—Adding sources and links is easy with Family Tree's Source Box feature. Links to original record sources can also be added for easy access to Internet record sites.
- **Preserve Your Information**—FamilySearch will preserve your family tree for future generations. In the near future, it will allow you to preserve family photographs and stories for future generations to enjoy.
- **Temple Submissions**—Family names can be quickly and easily prepared for submission to temples around the world.
- **Help Others**—By using the helper feature, family history leaders are able to assist others more easily.
- **Training**—To receive training on these features visit the training site specifically for Family Tree at <http://www.FamilySearch.org/treetraining>.

Dick Eastman, creator of the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter, writes "FamilySearch.org is not the first online genealogy database to allow users to make corrections, but it is the biggest and one of the most respected. It offers everyone an opportunity to 'groom' the data with the results helping everyone. If that is done, the database could become highly accurate within a couple of years or so. In my mind, this is one of the best examples of collaborative genealogy." Family Tree is one more step toward making family history research easier and more productive.

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## Iowa Settlers and The Fergusons

Submitted by Gretchen Triplett

When the Federals advanced in line of battle on the 7th, causing a retreat of the rebels, Price, in order to escape being taken from Ferguson and compelled to join his comrades in a southern prison, wrapped bloody garments about him and groaned in feigned agony, as the confederates' rear guard gathered up those who were able to travel. After the advance of the federal lines the wounded were gathered up and transferred to the landing to be placed on steamers, but Ferguson died soon after reaching the landing, during the forenoon of the 7th. Price, regaining his Enfield rifle and equipments, where they had been hastily thrown at the time of the surrender, fought to the end of the battle with an Illinois regiment belonging to Buell's army, and has the distinction of being the one man of the Twelfth Iowa that fought both days in the thick of the Battle of Shiloh.

"Nathan G. Price lived to fight in every battle his regiment was engaged in during the war and was one of the bravest men in the Twelfth Iowa. He made a wonderful life for himself and his family in Jewell County, Kansas.

"Ferguson was a young officer of promise, a born leader of men, and a man of high moral character, pure motives, prompt intelligence and efficiency. His loss was deplored by his company and regiment. His comrades buried him near the camp on the high bluff overlooking the Tennessee River and his body now rests in a known grave in the beautiful national cemetery at Pittsburg Landing."

The Grand Army Post at Nevada was named in his honor, as was the Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Union Army, US Navy, Marines and Revenue Cutter Service who served in the American Civil War. It was founded on the principles of "Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty," on 6 April 1866 in Decatur IL by Benjamin F. Stephenson.



## SCGS Volunteers Needed to Design Beginners Genea-“OLLI”-gy class



By Marti Rasmussen

A beginning four-week genealogy class for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Iowa State University Fall 2013 session has been approved by the OLLI Curriculum Committee at its April meeting. To meet the deadline for a description for the catalog, we need to get organized and a committee should be formed. Time of day of this class and actual dates are not yet determined.

Marti Rasmussen and Mary Lohr sent in our Course Proposal to the Committee with a title for the class of

"Root and Branch: Pruning Your Family Tree, Beginning Genealogy". Mary and Marti discussed content for the four weeks, but think a committee should help with implementing this outreach effort of our SCGS. This article is a call for volunteers for the following tasks on this committee.:

1. To set up content areas and activities for these classes, most likely 1 1/2 hours each weekly in Fall 2013 (probably in October). These members would meet this summer several times to accomplish this goal.
2. Individuals to aid students in the class in the activities and implementing the individual class sessions. We have asked for up to 25 enrollees for the class. This needs several people available each week to assist the students.
3. Volunteers who could help prepare materials and activities for use in the Fall classes probably both before and during the classes.

This is an important commitment for SCGS to undertake, and members should consider this in offering what help they can. Please contact Marti Rasmussen if you are interested in serving on this committee of 8 to 10 persons either for planning or implementing this beginner introduction to our favorite hobby -- genealogy and/or family history.



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

### *Story County Genealogical Society*

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
or pay Treasurer Mary Ausborn, at a SCGS meeting.  
Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_ \$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2013.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

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P.O. Box 692  
AMES, IA 50010

# Meeting Minutes

February 2013



Photo submitted by  
Marti Rasmussen

SCGS April 2013  
Meeting Minutes

The April 2013  
Meeting, held April 8th,  
was called to order at 7:00  
by President Marilyn  
Peterson at the Ames  
Historical Society. There  
were 22 members and 2  
guests present.

Guests were asked to introduce themselves if they  
wanted.

Merlene Whisenand asked when dues were due. The  
answer was that dues can be paid for the new year in  
November and are due in January. If not paid by March  
31 then you are not considered a member for that years  
list of members.

## OLD BUSINESS

The minutes of the March meeting were approved

The treasurer's report was read by Mary Ausborn  
and approved.

There was no Library Report.

Marti Rasmussen said the meeting in May will be in  
Story City at the Bertha Bartlett Library. The Storyteller  
Mike King will present "Crafting Your Family Stories for  
Fun".

Marti Rasmussen said the September meeting will  
feature Craig Hastings about adoption in Iowa and in  
October Gretchen Triplett will speak about Iowa in the  
Civil War. November does not usually have a speaker but  
she will try to have Doug Proval give a program on Songs  
of the Pioneers. These meetings will be at the Northcrest  
Retirement Center in the Green Room.

Gretchen Triplett talked about the upcoming of Civil  
War Rededication Ceremony and said that the State  
Historical Museum has a Civil War exhibit.

## NEW BUSINESS

Marti Rasmussen said we were asked to teach a basic  
genealogy course by Ollie Life Long Institute at ISU  
(formerly College for Seniors). It would be in October  
and be once a week for four weeks. Marti R. made a  
motion we teach the course and Merlene W. seconded  
the motion and it was voted on and approved. She said

we would talk about summer help sessions at the next  
meeting.

Samara Thornock announced that The Church of  
Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is considering a Family  
History Fair this summer and encouraged the SCGS to  
participate. More information will be coming in future  
meetings.

An Announcement was made that the IGS was having  
the Spring Tech Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Theresa Larson Presented a program about the oral  
history project of the Ames Historical Society entitled  
"Did you Know?".

## Story County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010

### OFFICERS

President	Marilyn Peterson
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer	Mary Ausborn
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe

### NEWSLETTER

Editor	Samara Thornock
	<a href="mailto:samara_thornock@hotmail.com">samara_thornock@hotmail.com</a>
Next issue	September 2013
Deadline for Articles/Announcements:	<b>Fri. 8/30/2013</b>

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

<b>May 13, 2013</b>	"Crafting Your Family Stories for Fun"
<b>Bertha Bartlett Public Library</b>	<i>Speaker: Mike King</i>
<b>September 9, 2013</b>	"What's that relatives name, really?"
<b>Northcrest Community Green Room</b>	<i>Speaker(s): Craig Hastings and Jackie Fredrick (tentative)</i>
<b>October 14, 2013</b>	"Story County and the Civil War"
<b>Northcrest Community Green Room</b>	<i>Speaker: Gretchen Triplett</i>
<b>November 11, 2013</b>	"Songs of the Pioneers"
<b>Northcrest Community Green Room</b>	<i>Speaker: Doug Provall</i>
	<i>Followed by Talks and Treats</i>



SCGS News

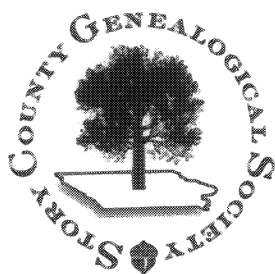
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# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

SEPTEMBER  
2013

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VOL. 46  
ISSUE 6

## Meeting Location Change!

**NEXT PROGRAM: MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 9 2013, 7PM  
NORTHCREST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY  
GREEN ROOM, MAIN BLDG.  
1801 20<sup>TH</sup> ST. AMES**

As previously published in the May SCGS News, our meetings this fall will be at Northcrest Retirement Community, Green Room in the main building with parking around the circle near the entrance.

### ANOTHER GENEALOGY TV SHOW

Genealogy Roadshow begins Sept. 23 on PBS at 8 pm. with a show #101 featuring six local residents of Nashville who will learn about their family history with the help of experts. Be sure to watch it. Show #102. will feature Detroit on Sept. 30 at 8 pm with six more local persons' family history

## "What I Did During My Summer Vacation"

By StoryGenes

Dear Diary,

Even though SCGS doesn't meet during the summer months, I've been busy with some fun genealogy-related activities. In June, I helped plan and celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War with an event honoring Jason D. Ferguson and Story County Civil War veterans at a Flag Day ceremony held in Nevada. At the conclusion of the ceremony

I overheard an elderly gentleman say, "We should have more programs like this." That was very rewarding!

In July and August, I was part of a group from SCGS that held genealogy help sessions at the Story City (Bertha Bartlett Public Library) and Gilbert libraries. It's always fun to "talk genealogy" and extend a helping hand to those who want to learn more of their ancestry.

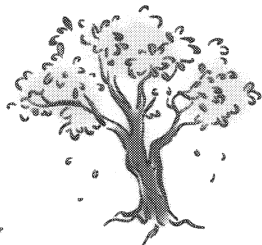
Also this summer, I've been helping plan "Root & Branch: Pruning Your Family Tree," a beginning genealogy class being offered in October. These kinds of activities take LOTS of preparation and it's exciting to work with other members of SCGS to orchestrate it.

I've been doing some research requests submitted to SCGS. A woman wanted to see if we could find where her parents lived in 1946. She is planning a trip to Iowa and wanted to know if the house is still standing.

So it's been a fun and busy summer, but I've missed our monthly genealogy meetings and am looking forward to some good camaraderie and programs when meetings resume in September.

Your friend,  
StoryGenes

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Welcome Back...Share Family Albums. . . . .	pg 3
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Beginning Genealogy**"OLLI" class Begins****on Wednesday****October 9 2013**

By Marti Rasmussen

A beginning four-week genealogy class for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Iowa State University Fall 2013 session will be held Wednesdays Oct. 9, 16, 21, 28 from 1- 2:30 pm. Registration is now being taken either online at [isuolli.org/registration](http://isuolli.org/registration) or by phone by calling 515-204-3192. The class can accommodate 20-25 students of beginners in family history research.

The class is called in the catalog "Root and Branch: Pruning Your Family Tree, Beginning Genealogy". The planning committee has been working hard to set up the four classes to give the basic skills to our students. This will start them off with several online websites like Ancestry .com, available at the Ames Public Library and the Family History Center free on the Library edition of this website. The class will also cover FamilySearch.org and several other basic websites. Traditional sources for information like interviewing relatives and friends about the family, courthouse records and research trips will be a part of the program.

The Planning committee for this class included the following members: Gwenna Jacobson, Mary Lohr, Marti Rasmussen, Marti Steelman, Marilyn Peterson, and Merelene Whisenand.

This is an important commitment for SCGS to undertake, and members should consider this in offering what help they can. Please contact Marti Rasmussen if you are interested in assisting with the October class meetings or preparations for them, please let us know by contacting a committee member about what you can do to help make this class a lasting and pleasant experience for OLLI students and for our members who are sharing their interest and knowledge of family history research.

**The Hearts of the Children****by Samara Thornock****Newsletter Editor**

While a generation is defined as a period of time or the step of descent from one ancestor to another, it is often most remembered by their achievements, cultural personality, affliction, or even pariahs of the time in which an individual lived. Polio will be remembered as one those pariahs. And my grandmother will be remembered as one of the "greatest" generation who survived polio.

Priscilla Elizabeth Lynn was born in 1932 in Parma, MO, was the 9<sup>th</sup> of 13 (11 surviving children born to Clifford and Bessie. Being one of the babies had its advantages, and her older sister Gertrude was an especially attentive mother surrogate. When the debilitating disease took its course, "Liz" was paralyzed. One of her remembered greatest disappointments was that school was not an option during this time. However, as her brothers and sisters worked with her, she eventually learned to walk again and return to regular children's activities. T

Grandma passed away at the end of May this year. Just after her passing, my husband and I were distressed to find our little 4-year-old, Malcolm, was struggling with cancer of the nervous system. The neuroblastoma had fully infiltrated his bone marrow, and action to combat it was recommended immediately. While the least of our concern, but a significant corollary, one of his greatest disappointments is that he will not be starting school in the fall.

Malcolm has undergone, and will undergo, the best treatment available. His 3 brothers and 2 sisters have rallied around him in prayer and service, as well as friends, school, church, and other community members in behalf of our family. The outpouring of concern and help has been tremendous.

Thankfully, we can report that **amazing** progress is being made. More chemo, surgery, and radiation are forthcoming and will continue, in the least, into the fall. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**



## ***The Hearts of the Children***

### **CONTINUED**

For more information on Malcolm's progress, please check out

**[www.facebook.com/MalcolmsMiracles](http://www.facebook.com/MalcolmsMiracles).**

We are hoping that, like Grandma, the effects of this challenge will be as minimal as possible and that a return to life as a child will happen very soon.

This season of serving as newsletter editor for the SCGS News has been a delightful one.

Unfortunately "editor" is one hat that will have to be put back on the shelf for a time. Hopefully I will be able to pick that up again soon. In the meantime, our family will be focusing on looking to the example of strength demonstrated by those who have overcome equally tremendous odds before us and praying God's hand be extended in our family and Malcolm's behalf.

## **Sept. Program- Story County and The Civil War- on Sept. 9**

**By Gretchen Triplett**

As America is commemorating the 150th anniversary of its Civil War, my program will be about how the times were in Iowa, what the feelings were of people in general, the economic times, activities of young men, and the election of Abraham Lincoln and how it affected the outcome of the war. America was young, only 80 years old, but our country was not very settled in 1860.

Especially, it was very interesting for me to find out what life was like in Story County at that time, and how our own young men entered into serving their country. It was because of Story County's two Civil War artifacts, the captured Confederate cannon that was brought to the county seat of Nevada long after the war ended in 1865, and the placement of the Lincoln's Gettysburg Address tablet, and the exciting history of these objects, as well as finding the actual names of every man from Story County who served in the Grand Army of the Republic, those who gave the last full measure of devotion, and the actual names of all Civil War veterans who found their last resting

place in Iowa, and which of our 56 county cemeteries in which they lie.

The Story County Civil War 150th Committee honored our history in our Flag Day event at Nevada! This local history is much too important to forget, we must continue to remember the cost of the freedom we all enjoy. We can be really proud of Story County's willing participation to serve. Newscaster Tom Brokaw has called WWII veterans "", but I think it could be said that the G.A.R. was the *first* Greatest Generation, as these men quietly came home and worked hard, eventually making America the greatest economic, agricultural and industrial leader the world has .

## ***Welcome Back***

### ***.....Share Family Albums***

***By Marilyn Peterson, President of SCGS***

Welcome to the fall season of SCGS! I hope you have had a productive and enjoyable summer. Members of the Society have been busy in various activities, including the Flag Day Sesquicentennial event, help sessions at libraries, and planning for a genealogy course to be offered in October at OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Summer is also a time for individual research as we share in family gatherings, attend reunions and special events, and visit cemeteries.

At my 2013 family reunion, a photo album appeared with numerous pictures of ancestors. What a treasure! Except that most photos were poorly marked or not marked at all. Who is Aunt Kass, what was her real name, and how does she fit into the family? This serves as a reminder of how not to leave albums and photos for future generations. It's like putting a puzzle together with many pieces missing. The golden rule of planning-- ***who, what, when, and where***--applies to genealogy also. But I am grateful for several exciting "finds" provided by my grandmother's diary of 1899. Two small pieces of our puzzle appeared in that diary. Thank you, Grandma, for helping document, date, and identify several family events and people.



## Meeting Minutes

### *held May 13, 2013 7pm*

The May 2013 Meeting, held May 13th, was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Marilyn Peterson at the Bertha Bartlett Library in Story City. There were 22 members and 2 guests present.

Guests were asked to introduce themselves if they wanted.

#### **Old Business**

The minutes of the April meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was read by Mary Ausborn and approved.

Lucille Wahrenbrock gave a Library Report. Starting in September the meetings will be at the Northcrest Retirement Community by Ames High School at 1801 20<sup>th</sup> St. and held in the Green Room in the main building. ..

Gretchen Triplett reminded us about the upcoming Civil War Sesquicentennial Rededication Ceremony on Flag Day in Nevada at the court house.

Marti Rasmussen spoke about the upcoming basic genealogy course at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at ISU (formerly College for Seniors) which members of SCGS will teach. It will be in October at Northcrest Retirement Community and be once a week for four weeks.

A committee of 8 to 10 people will be put together with the first meeting in June. Marti Steelman, Marti Rasmussen, Mary Lohr and Gwenna Jacobson will be on the committee. Others can let Marti know if they are interested in being on the committee.

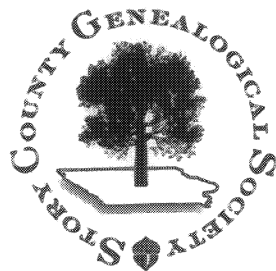
Samara Thornock spoke about the upcoming Family History Fair at the Church of Latter Day Saints. It will be this winter with teaser/help sessions this fall and SCGS is asked to participate. The September meeting speaker might be Craig Hastings about adoption in Iowa and in October Gretchen Triplett will speak about Iowa in the Civil War. November does not usually have a speaker but Doug Provow give a program on Songs of the Pioneers. **NOTE CHANGES:**

**SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING WILL FEATURE GRETCHEN TRIPLETT, FOR OCTOBER 14 MEETING : DOUG PROVOW WILL PERFORM "LOG CABIN SONGS".**

A summer genealogy help session will be held this summer at the Bertha Bartlett Library in Story City and perhaps at the Gilbert Library.

#### **New Business**

No new business was discussed.



Logo design by  
Karen Pattee David

## *Story County Genealogical Society*

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010

or pay Treasurer Mary Ausborn, at a SCGS meeting.

Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_\$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2013.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### NEWSLETTER

**Editor** Samara Thornock

**P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010**

**email:** [samara\\_thornock@hotmail.com](mailto:samara_thornock@hotmail.com)

**Next issue October 2013**

**Deadline for Articles/Announcements is  
September 25, 2013**

### **Sunflowers for September**



### UPCOMING MEETINGS ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7 PM

**September 9, 2013**  
**Northcrest Community**  
**1801 20<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**Ames, IA**

***"Story County and The Civil War"***  
***Speaker:***  
***Gretchen Triplett***

**October 14 , 2013**  
**Northcrest Community**  
**1801 20th St.**  
**Ames, IA**

***"Log Cabin Songs"***  
***Performed by Doug Provow***



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## Ames Public Library Suggested Book Order 2013

<i>An Armory of American Families of Dutch Descent</i> NYG&B Society	<b>\$90.00</b>
<i>Classic Reprints: Genealogies, Local Histories, and More</i> NEHGS Book Store, NEHGS, Boston	<b>\$12.95</b>
<i>Education and Ontario Family History</i> Marian Press, Dundurn Press, 3 Church St., STE. 500, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	<b>\$19.95</b>
<i>Family Chronicle's Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors</i>	<b>\$9.95</b>
<i>General Alphabetical Index to the Town lands and Towns, Parishes, and Baronies of Ireland, Based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851</i>	<b>\$60.00</b>
<i>The Genealogist's Google Toolbox</i> Family Chronicle	<b>\$24.95</b>
<i>Genealogy at a Glance: French - Canadian Genealogy Research</i> Denise R. Larson. Gen. Pub.	<b>\$7.95</b>
<i>The German Churches of Metropolitan New York: a Research Guide.</i>	<b>\$18.00</b>
<i>Index o Obituary Notices in the Religious Herald, Richmond VA, 1828-1938</i>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<i>Military Bounty land, 1776-1885</i> Christine Rose. CR Publications, 1474 Montelegr Dr., San Jose, CA 95120	<b>\$19.95+</b>
<i>My Ancestor was Scottish</i> Alan Stewart, Society of Genealogists Enterprises Ltd., <a href="http://www.sog.org.uk">www.sog.org.uk</a>	<b>\$15.00?</b>
<i>A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland, 2nd. ed.</i>	
<i>New England Marriages prior to 1790</i> Clarence Almon Torrey	<b>\$84.95</b>
<i>Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland</i> James R. Reilly. Gen. Pub.	<b>\$25.00</b>
<i>Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island</i> James N. Arnold, Gen. Pub.	<b>\$55.00</b>
<i>Time Traveler's Handbook: a Guide to the Past</i> Althea Douglas, Dundurn Press, 3 Church St. STE. 3506, Toronto, Canada	<b>\$19.95</b>
<i>Tracing Your Prisoner of War Ancestors: The First World War</i> Sarah Peterson. Pen & Sword Books Ltd.	<b>\$29.95</b>
<i>Tracing Your War of 1812 Ancestors</i> David A. Norris. Family Chronicle	<b>\$9.95</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$548.50</b>





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VOL. 46  
ISSUE 6

**NEXT PROGRAM: MONDAY  
OCTOBER 14 2013, 7PM  
NORTHCREST RETIREMENT  
COMMUNITY  
GREEN ROOM, MAIN BLDG.**

**FOLLOW DRIVE FROM 20<sup>TH</sup> ST**

Give the editor YOUR opinion  
Genealogy Roadshow TV Show  
Now SHOWING on Monday on PBS  
What did You think of the  
First 2 shows? Share your views...  
Email [Mart515@yahoo.com](mailto:Mart515@yahoo.com)

**Give Yourself a Break This  
Fall ....Attend Iowa  
Genealogical Society  
Conference –  
OCTOBER 25-26.**

**By Marilyn Peterson, SCGS**

## **President**

If you feel the need for more activity to satisfy your genealogy "fix", a great opportunity awaits you this month. Participating in activities of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) is one way to extend your involvement in Story County Genealogical Society and your personal

research. The IGS Fall Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, October 25-26, at the Lion's Club in Johnston (6401 Merle Hay Road). If you have never attended one of these conferences, you are in for a genealogical treat. Not only will you hear good speakers and attend informative sessions, it is a great opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with persons who share your love for genealogy. Oh, yes, the food and snacks are great too! You can find more details on the IGS website: [www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org). If you need inspiration or a battery charge for your research pursuits, you may want to give this a try. The conference is always a personal highlight for me, and I hope it will be for you.

## **IGS CONFERENCE OCT, 25-26 AT JOHNSTON LIONS CLUB,**

This Annual Conference is being held this year at the Johnston Lions Club, 6401 Merle Hay Road, Johnston, IA. Beth Foulk, lives in Lee's Summit, MO. Her topics will include on for Friday Morning, Colonial Land and how our ancestors received it. And she will explore the American Revolution Genealogy.

On Friday, Dr. David Gradwohl will talk about "Exploring Buried Buxton", a town owned by the Consolidated Coal Company which ISU Archaeological Lab studied using historical archaeology techniques. Register before Oct. 11 for 2 days, IGS Member \$95; Non Member- \$115 Contact via : [www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org). or phone: 515-276- 9287

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Comments on Genealogy Roadshow TV program.



# SCGS NEWS

*“Helping You Connect With Your Heritage”*

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## Beginning Genealogy Class Update

**Starts Wednesday. OCT 9**



*By Marti Rasmussen*

Our 4- Week Class for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Iowa State University begins on Wed. October 9. We have 25 students registered in "Beginning Genealogy, Root & Branch: Pruning Your Family Tree." The planning committee has worked hard through the summer. Committee members, Gwenna Jacobson, Mary Lohr, Martha Rasmussen, and Merlene Whisenand will be meeting with students for four weeks and teaching basic family history research. Others who are helping with the course include Marilyn Peterson, Marti Steelman, and Annette Anderegg.

Class members will learn about several major search websites- Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org as well as government records like the U.S. Census. Attention will be given to the print sources everyone has at home- local atlases and histories of the area where your family lived, letters, scrapbooks, and yearbooks. Introduction to useful and interesting Internet websites will also be presented. The class will meet for one and a half hours each time.

We are looking forward to getting acquainted with the students and renewing friendships.

**Genealogy Roadshow TV Program**  
**Sept. 23 & Sept, 30 Member Reviews**  
*From Marti Steelman emailed on Oct. 2*  
I watched Genealogy Roadshow for Nashville and Detroit and was not impressed. Members of the

general public line up to learn more about a family member, confirm/dispel a family myth, etc. The show provides a lot of history of the local area, while interesting, makes up a lot of the show. Mention someone famous, and more show time is spent on that individual. D. Joshua Taylor, President for the Federation of Genealogical Societies, is using his 15 minutes of fame to full advantage. I found myself watching his hands, facial expressions and his timing for audience reaction. Kenyatta Berry, President of the Association of Professional Genealogists, was low key, less dramatic and more professional.

Census records are shown on the monitor and vital records are barely mentioned. Just like Who Do You Think You Are, the public is led to believe Ancestry.com will provide a family tree with a few clicks on the keyboard and you're done. The unsuspecting viewer could subscribe to Ancestry.com, create a family tree, and distribute to anyone who wants a copy without verifying the information.

The program is shown Monday nights at 8pm on IPTV Channel 11 and runs through October 14.

*Another view of new Genealogy TV Program from Gwenna Jacobson emailed October 4*

**GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** is a new TV program that is based on the popular TV program ANTIQUE ROADSHOW, except that instead of bringing in antiques they bring in family stories, photographs or perhaps a family heirloom that they want to verify or find out more about. The first two shows have already aired and were from Nashville, Tennessee and Detroit Michigan. The next two shows will be in Austin, Texas and San Francisco, California.



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Perhaps my more favorite stories are the two separate people whose fathers had died when they were young and they never knew their fathers but are connected with their fathers' stories and in one case a living relative. Also I liked the story of how an ancestor gradually Americanized his name to Blackman because they showed the records that showed the variation in this person's name over time. I also liked the story where they had a very old photograph of a black gentleman with a white child and only the clue was the words Uncle Fate on the back of the picture. They were able to identify him by his first name Fate and find living descendants to identify him in the photo.



***Bauge Cabin before it Burned by  
an arsonist on March 15, 2004***

A historical children's novel that a young friend told me was her favorite story as a child including ghosts, intrigue and interesting characters. Peggy Grahame, an orphan, comes to her family estate to live with eccentric Uncle Enos, a scholar too busy to bother with a lonely child. Peggy finds companion-ship with ghosts from her colonial ancestors who are fighting in the American Revolution in Orange County, NY.

The author was an English professor for 38 years at Mills College in Oakland, CA. and taught about Milton and Shakespeare. Her previous novel, *The Perilous Gard*, was named a Newbery Honor Book. Her blend of fantasy and historical romance makes for a very entertaining and interesting reading experience for children and adults who enjoy genealogy and history. It's great to come across some of these great old stories.

## ***Inside the Bauge Cabin***

## **Book Review**

### **The Sherwood Ring**

By Elizabeth Marie Pope,  
Houghton Mifflin, 1956





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## Doug Provow Will Present "Log Cabin Songs" to Celebrate Our Heritage

"I was born in 1924 and attended a country school for 8 years which was during the heart of the great depression. My folks income dropped in half and they struggled. My mother took in washing and papered rooms for a dollar a day. But she had a great spirit and sang during those hard days. I learned the "Log Cabin Songs" from her. They were songs that the women sang to their children when their times were hard."--Doug Provow

Among the songs Doug will offer include such old favorites of yesteryear as Two Babes in the Wood, The Old Spinning Wheel and When I Was Single. Come and join SCGS in a evening of music that was popular among settlers in Iowa and USA in the "good ole days".

## Meeting Minutes

**SEPT 9 . 2013 at 7pm**

The September 2013 Meeting, September 9th, was called to order at 7:00 by President Marilyn Peterson at the Northcrest Community Center Green Room in Ames. There were 21 members and 2 guests present. The guests David Norris and Lynn Seydel introduced themselves.

**New Business** The minutes of the May meeting were amended to because Marti Rasmussen called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting not Marilyn Peterson. The minutes were approved as amended. The treasurer's report was read by Mary Ausborn and approved.

All meetings until May 2014 will be in the Northcrest Community Center Green Room Main Building. October's program will feature a musical Doug Provow presenting "Log Cabin Songs", songs popular with settlers in Iowa and elsewhere. The November meeting will be election of officers with members sharing research stories.

Mary Lohr took up a collection in the memory of Mary Speer, Merlene Whisenand took up a collection for the Family of Malcolm Thornock and his family to take a ride on the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad.



# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

OCTOBER  
2013

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AMES, IA  
50010

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VOL. 46  
ISSUE 6



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Karen Pattee David

## *Story County Genealogical Society*

Send Membership dues to P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010  
or pay Treasurer Mary Ausborn, at a SCGS meeting.  
Make Checks payable to Story County Genealogical Society.

Membership is \_\_\$10 per person OR \_\_\$15 per family each year  
dues paid after April 1 will be for balance of 2013.

MEMBER OF IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY \_\_Yes \_\_No

Visit SCGS online at [www.storygenes.com](http://www.storygenes.com)

NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	
PHONE		EMAIL	

**Old Business** Mary Lohr spoke about the volunteer sessions the SCGS conducted this summer at the Story City and Gilbert Libraries. Marilyn Peterson asked if there would be any volunteers to go to the IGS library on the first Saturday in October. Traditionally SCGS volunteers at the IGS Library the first Saturday of even months. No one was able to volunteer for October so Marilyn would advise the IGS Library about that

Marti Rasmussen spoke about the upcoming OLLI class Beginning Genealogy taught by SCGS members. She said that we had 16 enrolled for the 4 week course in October. Marilyn Peterson said that Troy Kilzer would like



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volunteers in early November for the Boy Scout Genealogy Program at ISU. Mary Ausborn said she would have the new membership list available next week.

Marilyn Peterson said SCGS would be having a 45 year Anniversary of the society and would like to form a committee to plan a

celebration. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm

Gretchen Triplett gave the presentation "Story County Iowa in the Civil War Times".

## Story County Genealogical Society

### OFFICERS

President	Marilyn Peterson
Vice President	Martha Rasmussen
Secretary	Gwenna Jacobson
Treasurer	Mary Ausborn
Publicity	Luanne Endreland
Librarian	Lucille Wahrenbrock
Historian	Martha Deyoe



### NEWSLETTER

**Editor** Samara Thornock

P.O. Box 692, Ames, IA 50010

email:

[samara\\_thornock@hotmail.com](mailto:samara_thornock@hotmail.com) Next iss

**November 2013**

Deadline for Articles/Announcements is

**OCTOBER 25, 2013**



# SCGS NEWS

*“Helping You Connect With Your Heritage”*

OCTOBER  
2013

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UPCOMING MEETINGS ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7 PM

<p>October 14 , 2013 Northcrest Community Turn at 20<sup>th</sup> St. &amp; Ames High Enter Drive to Main Bldg.Ames, IA</p>	<p><i>“Log Cabin Songs”</i> <i>Performed by Doug Provow</i></p>
<p>November 11, 2013 Northcrest Community Main Building, Green Room 20<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance Ames, IA</p>	<p><i>Election of Officers</i> <i>Speaker sharing Genealogy Discovery</i> <i>Member Marti Steelman</i> <i>Members Marilyn &amp; Buckley Peterson</i></p>







# SCGS NEWS

*"Helping You Connect With Your Heritage"*

NOVEMBER  
2013

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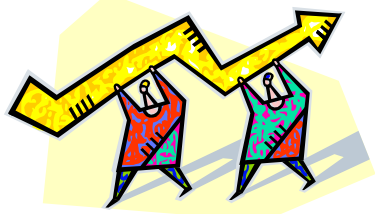
**Next Program, Mon. Nov. 11  
AT NORTHCREST  
RETIREMENT  
COMMUNITY at 7 PM  
Green Room, Main Bldg.**

**\ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
/AT NOVEMBER MEETING  
INCLUDES VP & SECRETARY**

*From Marti Rasmussen*

Our Story County Genealogical Society has been very fortunate in having consistent leadership from members serving as officers. I have been vice president for two years and five years as newsletter editor. Gwenna Jacobson has been secretary for several years. We both feel it is time to let others have the experience of leading our group of enthusiastic family historians for the next year.

Several members have agreed to serve. Marilyn Peterson will continue as our president, but there will be new faces for secretary and vice president. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your vice president and learned a great deal about genealogy, myself and gathered a new appreciation of our membership. Please come to the meeting to meet our new and old officers and share the special friendships we develop as members of a vibrant and active genealogy society!



*Notes On*

**OUR NOVEMBER PROGRAM**

***Research Stories by Members....***

*By Marilyn Peterson*

We were fortunate to have the opportunity to visit an ancestral farm of the Peterson family in Denmark and a homestead of my ancestors in Ohio. We look forward to sharing a brief review of those trips with you on November 11.

In 2007, we visited Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark, ending in Bronderslev in northern Jutland, Denmark. By a family connection, we were hosted by a Danish couple who took us to the family farm and other sites, including the church where Buckley's great grandparents were married in 1854. In Ohio in 2001, we joined 14 other descendants of my third-great grandfather, John Bolton. A cousin living in the Findlay area, where my Bolton ancestors homesteaded, arranged visits to cemeteries, libraries, and the 1853 homestead of John Bolton. The research reunion allowed us to meet other descendants and make new family connections. Both the Denmark and Ohio trips were great experiences that inspire us to "dig" for more family members and seek places where they lived.

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## ***Beginning Genealogy Update***

*By Marti Rasmussen*

The Four-Week Genealogy class presented by SCGS members for Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLI) ended on Wednesday, October 30. But Not quite.

Class members requested a field trip to the Family History Center located at 2524 Hoover Ave., which was arranged by Annette Anderegg for Wednesday, Nov. 6 at the regular class time. The class also wanted to visit the Story County Recorder's Office and Mary Lohr has arranged this field trip for Nov. 20. So it looks like we have a group of genealogists ready to put their lives into exploring their family histories.

Our SCGS can be proud of the presentations of our members, Gwenna Jacobson, Mary Lohr, Marti Rasmussen, Merlene Whisenand. We also thank the assistants for class including Annette Anderegg,, Marilyn Peterson and Marti Steelman. The class members were asking good questions and gave full attention to learning the ropes of Beginning Genealogy so it was a success in many different ways.

### **IGS CONFERENCE OCT, 25-26**

#### **AT THE JOHNSTON LIONS CLUB,**

Several SCGS members attended IGS Annual Conference was held this year at the Johnston Lions Club, 6401 Merle Hay Road, Johnston, IA. Beth Foulk, the primary speaker, lives in Lee's Summit, MO. Her topics included on Friday Morning, Colonial Land and how our ancestors received it and later American Revolution Genealogy. On Friday, Dr. David Gradwohl presented "Exploring Buried Buxton", a town owned by the Consolidated Company. which the ISU Archaeological Lab studied using historical archaeological techniques.

Saturday presentations included "Cool Tools at the Midwest Genealogy Center in Kansas City. Afterward Bob Haskins gave information about current genetic tests for genealogists and practical applications of Y- DNA testing for family history research. Completing the day, "If I'd Only Known" gave tips on avoiding mistakes in your searches....

### ***PREVIEW BOOK REVIEW***

**All Standing: The Remarkable Story of the Jeanie Johnston, Legendary \ Irish Famine Ship By Kathryn Miles published by Free Press. New York, 2013. 239 p with Notes and Index. ISBN 978-1-4516-1013-0**

**Hardcover. \$26.**

This story of the legendary Irish Famine ship the Jeanie Johnston will both fascinate and impress all descendants of emigrants... especially the Irish. Known as the "luckiest" ship taking Irish to North America, the Jeanie never lost a passenger as she took 100 or more at a time across the ocean to Quebec, New York and Baltimore. Many important characters are included in this saga- John Munn, a Quebec shipwright and builder of the *Jeanie Johnston* and known for the superior quality of his ships. The owner, Nicholas Donovan, an importer/exporter of timber and grain saw the exchange of immigrants for other products as a business opportunity. And of course, Nicholas Reilly, son of Daniel and Margaret Reilly, who was born on Easter on the first voyage of the JEANIE JOHNSTON in 1848.

*See a more complete review of this book on an upcoming SCGS webpage....*

## *A Note of Thanksgiving*

There are times and seasons of our lives, not just Novembers, where we are endowed with a great many opportunities to give thanks. Our family is currently experiencing one of those, and was delighted to attend a particularly enjoyable event at the hands of Genealogical Society members.

At the beginning of October, our family was treated to the Boone Scenic Valley Railway's Pumpkin Train through the efforts of Merlene and Paul Whisenand, and donations by the SCGS. Malcolm, for whom the opportunity was particularly organized, loves trains, just like his brothers and sister before him. For a week, the refrain of "We're going on a PUMPKIN train!" was heard several times a day in our home and every other place we went.

The morning of the ride, the kids excitedly pick out their Halloween costumes from the holiday bin. We had an 11-yr. old ninja, a 9-yr. old pumpkin, 7-yr. old Superman, 5-yr. old Spiderman, 3-yr. old chicken, and 10-mo. old hot dog with accompanying Ketchup bottle of a Mom. The changing colors of the trees were beautiful, and the old steam trains and diesel trains were enchanting to their young minds. They loved picking out a pumpkin at the end and are looking forward to decorating or carving them for Halloween.

Seeing their faces, and hearing their giggles are the moments we cherish. For all of these special children, we have such precious little time.

Malcolm has completed 6 of 6 rounds of chemotherapy as well as surgery. The cancer has diminished throughout his body, but is being persistent where it has infiltrated his bones. In gratitude that there are additional therapies available before the final stages of his original protocol, we will be entering the next months with hope of further progress.

Thank you for the many cards, well wishes, gifts, phone calls, and acts of friendship you have shown me and my family. Thank you for such a great opportunity for us to grow as a family. We hope that that legacy of love and kindness which you have exemplified is something we can teach our children and are grateful for those of you who are teaching us more about what that looks like.

Love, Thanks, and Regard

*Samara Thornton & Family*

**MEETING MINUTES...October 14, 2013 at 7pm**

The October 14 meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Marilyn Peterson at the Northcrest Community Center Green Room in Ames. There were 20 members and 4 guests present.

**New Business** Mary Lohr described a possible Workshop in Wellsburg, IA for the benefit of the local Library, and a vote was taken for funds to support the materials needed for it. A vote was taken and passed to provide seed funds for this venture in Summer 2014. Mary Lohr took up a collection in the memory of Mary Speer,

**Old Business.** The OLLI class was going well with 24 students. Marilyn Peterson again brought up the question of SCGS members volunteering to go to the IGS Library on first Saturday of December. Merlene Whisenand and Mary Ausborn volunteered for this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm for a program on "Log Cabin Songs" by Doug Provow.



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Vice President	Martha Rasmussen



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## Next issue January 2014

Deadline for Articles/Announcements is  
December 20, 2013

To Marti Rasmussen  
Temporary Newsletter Editor  
Email: [mart515@yahoo.co](mailto:mart515@yahoo.co)

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7 PM

## NEWSLETTER

Editor Samara Thornock  
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November 11, 2013  
Northcrest Community  
Main Building, Green Room  
20<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance  
Ames, IA

*Election of Officers*  
*Program: Sharing Genealogy Discovery*  
*Member Marti Steelman*  
*Member Marilyn Peterson*

January 13, 2014  
Northcrest Community  
Main Building, Green Room  
20<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance  
Ames, IA

*Member Annette Anderegg*  
*Genealogy Research Resources*  
*At Family History Center. Ames, IA*



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## I Don't Want to Lose My Genealogy Data

by Mary Lohr

As family historians, we don't want to lose our data. So, what's a genealogist to do? Backup, backup, backup that data you've worked so hard to research and record. It's a known fact that hard drives fail and if the only copy of your genealogy is on your computer, you could lose it all with a computer malfunction, voltage surge, or even theft of your computer. But there are solutions to guarantee your files aren't lost.

Carbonite and Mozy are both commercial services that provide backup services. Your data is stored "in the cloud" and can be restored to a new or repaired computer. Generally, your files can also be accessed from another computer by logging into your account.

As with any backup plan, the key is *multiple copies, in multiple locations*. A hard copy is one line of defense. And copying your genealogy records to an external hard drive or compact discs provides another line of defense. However, a burst water pipe, natural disaster, fire or even theft could destroy both your computer and your back-up copy. Storing a copy off-site such as with a friend or a safe deposit box assures all is not lost.

There are online services that offer free or low cost data storage. Box.com, Dropbox.com, Google Drive (formerly Google Documents), Skydrive (by Microsoft) and even Amazon all provide some level of storage, and thus security, for your genealogy. You need to register for an account with these services. Amounts of storage and terms vary with each provider.

At a minimum, if you upload a GEDCOM file of your data to *several* sites, you will guarantee yourself some protection from loss. And common sense dictates you encrypt sensitive material.

Hard copies, external hard drive, and some online storage can go a long way to give you peace of mind. Remember: *multiple copies, in multiple locations!*

